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SOVIET UNION ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

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DECREE ON STATE ARBITRATION FUNCTION TO SECURE CONTRACT OBSERVANCE

Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SOYUZA SOVETSKIKH SOTSIALISTICHESKIKH RESPUBLIK in Russian No 15, 87 pp 307-313

[Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on the Further Improvement in the Activity of State Arbitration Organs and Increase in Their Role in Strengthening Legality and Contractual Discipline in the National Economy]

[Text] The accomplishment of the social and economic tasks set by the 27th CPSU Congress, active introduction and efficient utilization of new methods of management, and expansion of the independence and increase in the responsibility, initiative, and socialist undertaking of enterprises and organizations require the strengthening of legality in economic relations. Under these conditions the importance of economic contracts and of their unconditional fulfillment increases to an ever greater extent.

Meanwhile, in a number of economic sectors there are many cases of violation of cost accounting [khozraschet] rights and interests of enterprises and organizations and of serious shortcomings in the practice of contract conclusion. A large number of enterprises and organizations do not yet fulfill contractual obligations. Economic contracts are not utilized sufficiently for strengthening the influence of consumers on the formation of production plans, improvement in the quality and technical level of output, and expansion of its assortment.

The departmental and regionalistic approach to the establishment of intersectorial and interregional economic relations, as well as to the settlement of disagreements during the fulfillment of obligations, still persists, which hampers the creation of an atmosphere of business-like cooperation among enterprises and organizations. Normative acts of ministries and departments on problems concerning the conclusion and fulfillment of economic contracts often contradict legislation.

State arbitration organs should play an important role in preventing and eliminating the noted infringements of the law and shortcomings. However, they do not yet manifest the proper initiative and persistence in this matter, poorly affect enterprises and organizations for the purpose of fulfilling planned assignments and contractual obligations, and do not have a marked

effect on the state of work on concluding economic contracts. An analysis of the reasons for the nonfulfillment of planned assignments and contractual obligations, mismanagement, squandering, spoilage, shortages, and other losses of products put down to production costs is not made satisfactorily, especially in the low-level link. Business relations of state arbitration organs with labor collectives of enterprises and organizations, as well as with law protection and control organs, are inadequate.

The effectiveness of the work done by state arbitration organs is often lowered owing to cases of sluggishness and infringements of the law allowed by them during the settlement of economic disputes, which in a number of cases is connected with oversights in selecting personnel and improving their skills.

Party and Soviet organs do not yet pay proper attention to the activity of state boards of arbitration, do not make the necessary demands on them, and poorly use arbitration as an important lever for improving economic activity and intensifying the fight against breaches of contractual discipline.

For the purpose of further strengthening legality in economic relations and increasing the role and responsibility of state arbitration organs in this matter, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers decree:

1. To bind the USSR State Board of Arbitration to restructure the work of state arbitration organs in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and to take the necessary measures to improve the style and methods of their activity and to increase the responsibility of personnel. To significantly intensify the effect on strengthening legality and planning and contractual discipline in the national economy. To pay special attention to strictly securing the protection of the rights and interests of enterprises and organizations safeguarded by the law under the conditions of full cost accounting, self-financing, and strengthening of economic methods of administration and management.

The entire activity of state arbitration organs should be subordinate to the maximum increase in the efficiency of public production and to the implementation of the party policy of accelerating the country's social and economic development.

For these purposes state arbitration organs should:

fully utilize the rights granted them to ensure legality, a high quality of settlement of economic disputes, and the strengthening of contractual discipline, at the same time, avoiding interference in the operational activity of ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations;

increase the efficiency of preventive work and improve its coordination with the work of other law protection and control organs, striving for an elimination of the causes and conditions contributing to offences;

expand relations with labor collectives of enterprises and organizations for strengthening the fight for an unconditional fulfillment of contractual

obligations and increasing the responsibility of officials in this matter, as well as ensuring the proper educational significance of examination of arbitration cases directly at enterprises and organizations;

more fundamentally raise problems of making guilty persons responsible for breaches of planning and contractual discipline and for an unsubstantiated presentation of disputes to the board of arbitration;

improve the work on the generalization and analysis of the materials of arbitration practice and preventive activity and on the development of proposals connected with an improvement in the legal regulation of economic relations;

more actively react to cases of issue of departmental instructions and provisions concerning problems of economic activity contradicting legislation, which are uncovered by state boards of arbitration.

2. To consider it necessary to transform the State Board of Arbitration under the USSR Council of Ministers into the USSR State Board of Arbitration, state boards of arbitration under councils of ministers of Union and autonomous republics into state boards of arbitration of Union and autonomous republics, and state boards of arbitration under executive committees of kray, oblast, and city soviets of people's deputies and soviets of people's deputies of autonomous oblasts and autonomous okrugs, into state boards of arbitration of krays, oblasts, cities, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs.

To expand the powers of state arbitration organs for legal support for the new conditions of management and for strengthening legality and contractual discipline, additionally granting them rights;

to check at enterprises, institutions, and organizations the observance of legislative requirements concerning matters connected with the conclusion of contracts, fulfillment of obligations, application of property sanctions for committed violations, and prearbitration settlement of economic disputes and at ministries and departments, the practice of organization and management of this work; to receive from ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations the data available to them on the established reporting on the conclusion and fulfillment of contracts; to hear reports by officials on measures to eliminate infringements of the law in the work on concluding contracts and fulfilling obligations;

to give managers and other officials of enterprises, institutions, and organizations orders mandatory for execution on eliminating infringements of the law concerning the procedure of contract conclusion and prearbitration settlement of economic disputes, as well as on examining matters of making, in accordance with the established procedure, guilty persons financially responsible for the damage done in connection with infringements of the law in economic activity uncovered by state boards of arbitration;

to check the work done by boards of arbitration of ministries, departments, and other organs settling economic disputes and to give directives on improving it; to give boards of arbitration of ministries, departments, and

other organs settling economic disputes orders mandatory for execution on eliminating infringements of the law committed during the settlement of economic disputes, which are uncovered during checks.

Mandatory orders by state arbitration organs are subject to execution during a 10-day period with a report on results to an appropriate state board of arbitration.

To grant the USSR State Board of Arbitration and state boards of arbitration of Union republics the right:

to issue instructive directives on problems concerning the application of the law during the performance of contractual work at enterprises, institutions, and organizations;

jointly with ministries and departments performing intersectorial management functions to work out and issue directives on problems concerning the organization of work on concluding economic contracts.

To submit a draft ukase "On Introducing Changes in and Supplements to USSR Legislation on the State Board of Arbitration" to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

3. To establish that normative acts, which are issued by ministries and departments of the USSR and of Union republics, on problems of concluding and fulfilling economic contracts binding upon other ministries and departments and upon enterprises, institutions, and organizations subordinate to them are first coordinated with the USSR State Board of Arbitration, or with the state board of arbitration of a Union republic respectively.

To permit these state boards of arbitration to enlist, in agreement with appropriate ministries and departments, specialists and scientific workers in the preparation of normative acts and individual matters connected with the legal regulation of economic activity.

4. To instruct the USSR State Board of Arbitration and the USSR Gosagroprom, jointly with the USSR Ministry of Justice, the USSR Supreme Court, and the USSR Ministry of Finance, to examine the problem of transferring disputes with the participation of kolkhozes, interkolkhoz and state-kolkhoz enterprises and organizations, and their associations from the authority of courts to that of state boards of arbitration and to submit appropriate proposals to the USSR Council of Ministers within a 6-month period.

5. The USSR State Board of Arbitration must implement a set of measures to eliminate shortcomings in the work with personnel of state arbitration organs, to improve their selection, disposition, and training, and to increase the demands on personnel for an irreproachable execution of their official duty.

Constantly improve the skills of personnel and their vocational training, especially in the field of the economy and modern administration and management methods. Increase the retraining of state arbitration workers to 140 people annually before the end of the 12th Five-Year Plan, carrying it out

at the base of the All-Union Institute for Advanced Training for Justice Workers of the USSR Ministry of Justice, the All-Union Institute for Improvement of Skills of the USSR Gosstnab, and the Institute for Improvement of Skills of Managers of the Higher State Administration Link of the Academy of the National Economy under the USSR Council of Ministers.

The USSR Ministry of Finance must annually envisage the allocation of funds for improving the skills and retraining of workers of state arbitration organs with conditions of financial security established for legal personnel by point 5 of the decree No 1061 dated 10 December 1965 of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers.

6. To retain the existing procedure of financing and approving the structure and staff size of state arbitration organs.

7. Councils of ministers of Union and autonomous republics and executive committees of kray, oblast, and city soviets of people's deputies must:

secure a strict observance by enterprises, institutions, and organizations of laws in economic activity on their territory. Intensify business relations and the interaction between state boards of arbitration and economic management organs for the purpose of strengthening planning and contractual discipline and economic independence of enterprises and protecting their rights and legal interests. More widely utilize the capabilities of economic and legal services of enterprises and of departmental and people's control for this;

periodically submit reports to sessions of soviets and their permanent commissions for discussion and hear at their meetings statements by managers of state arbitration organs on the state of legality in economic relations and on the work done by them to strengthen it, considering the activity of these bodies an important means of effect on an increase in production efficiency;

take measures to improve material-technical and transport support and the placement of state arbitration organs, as well as material and everyday support and medical services for their workers.

8. Ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations must:

work out on the basis of materials received from state arbitration organs and implement specific measures to intensify the fight against infringements of laws concerning the protection of socialist property, mismanagement, squandering, output of poor-quality products, report padding, and other breaches of the law in economic activity and inform state arbitration organs of the measures taken;

take measures to discontinue an unsubstantiated presentation of economic disputes to a body of arbitration and not permit avoidance on the part of economic managers of an independent solution of problems and manifestations of quibbling during the conclusion and fulfillment of contracts and a prearbitration settlement of disputes.

9. The USSR State Board of Arbitration, the USSR Procuracy, the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, the USSR Ministry of Justice, the USSR Supreme Court, and the USSR Committee of People's Control must improve the coordination and increase the efficiency of joint work on preventing, stopping, and eliminating with legal means breaches of planning and contractual discipline and cases of departmentalism and regionalism, increasing the protection of socialist property, ensuring economy and thrift, eliminating losses, and strengthening cost accounting and legality in the activity of enterprises, institutions, and organizations.

10. Central committees of Communist parties of Union republics and kray, oblast, and city party committees must strengthen party guidance of the activity of state arbitration organs, keeping in mind that the state board of arbitration, like other law protection organs--the court, procuracy, and justice and internal affairs organs--is called upon to accomplish important tasks concerning the strengthening of socialist legality and legal support for restructuring and accelerating the country's social and economic development.

Increase the demands on state arbitration organs and their managers and party organizations for a practical participation in the realization of party plans for improving the economic mechanism, in the protection of the rights and legal interests of enterprises and organizations, and in the prevention of offences in economic activity. For these purposes exercise control over the course of restructuring the work of state boards of arbitration, paying special attention to problems concerning the efficiency of their effect on the state of legality in economic relations and contractual discipline in the national economy.

Take measures to improve the work on selecting, disposing, and training state arbitration personnel, to reinforce them with politically mature, principled, and highly skilled specialists, and to improve the economic training of state arbitrators.

More sharply react to cases of mismanagement, abuse, manifestations of regionalism and departmentalism, breaches of contractual discipline, and other illegal actions uncovered by state arbitration organs and place strict responsibility on economic managers and other officials not taking prompt measures to eliminate such infringements of the law.

Secretary
of the CPSU Central Committee
M. Gorbachev

Chairman
of the USSR Council of Ministers
N. Ryzhkov

Moscow, Kremlin, 12 February 1987 No 190

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ABALKIN COMMENTS ON RESTRUCTURING

Moscow PLANOVOYE KHOZYAYSTVO in Russian No 5, May 87 pp 10-16

[Article by L. Abalkin, director of the Economics Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, based on a lecture before employees of the USSR Gosplan on 10 March 1987: "Restructuring the System and Methods of Planned Management"; passages in all capital letters printed in boldface]

[Text] In examining any problem related to improvement in the system and methods of planned management of the economy, it is necessary to direct attention constantly to the initial theses, and in proceeding from them we can correctly evaluate the processes taking place and the reforms that cannot be put off. In the materials of the party's 27th congress, the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee set the task of restructuring society, the economy, and science. In essence, this involves measures of a revolutionary nature. This also applies to the system of managing the national economy, and we cannot limit ourselves to partial changes here; radical reform is necessary. It is clear that this is a task of extraordinary complexity which assumes that the decisions being made are carefully thought out with time for their implementation. It cannot be calculated for a transient effect, and the public has no right to expect immediate results from restructuring. A strategic system of measures in the form of successive stages in reform of the economic mechanism is required.

The restructuring which is under way affects the root structures and the deep-seated foundations of the economic system. The question of the necessity for fundamental reforms in the very basis of our economic system--**IN THE RELATIONSHIPS OF OWNERSHIP TO THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION**--has never been raised before. And this question, which involves the sum total of the complex relationships of ownership, including the forms of their manifestation and economic realization, which affect the interests of every social level, collective, and individual worker, has arisen today.

Restructuring cannot leave out the system of planned management of the national economy, either. The organizational forms and methods of planning and management that have taken shape have played their historic role, but they

have become obsolete with time and now do not meet the requirements of economic and social progress. They have become one of the main obstacles on the path of intensifying the national economy, increasing its efficiency, assimilating scientific and technical achievements, and resolving social problems.

When we say that restructuring cannot be restricted to partial changes, we must have a clear conception of what this refers to. In general, how do we distinguish those reforms, frequent in the past, which are formal in nature and affect merely the outer layers of public life, from the fundamental ones which affect production relationships themselves?

The theoretical grounds for such differentiation are quite reliable. It is common knowledge that production relationships are always manifested in any society as INTERESTS. That is basic in Marxist theory. And if reform and restructuring do not affect the interests of people and leave them apathetic and indifferent, this is a sure sign that the reform is formal in nature. But if a reform actively influences their interests, puts millions of persons into action, and is a factor in changing the motivation for economic activity, this means that it really penetrates production relationships and changes them.

Such an approach also has to be utilized in examining the problems of combination and coordination of centralized leadership and independence and democratic principles in organizing public life.

THE COMBINATION OF CENTRALISM AND DEMOCRATISM IN MANAGEMENT OF THE ECONOMY

This is not a new problem. It has been discussed for decades. True, the conclusions drawn were not particularly original and were that centralism must not be set against independence, and that they need to be sensibly combined with each other. If we also follow this path today, we will be returning to the ideas and concepts of yesterday.

The problem itself is now seen in a new way in many respects, and its solution is inseparably linked with development of advanced scientific comprehension of economic processes, and primarily the NEW NATURE of centralism and independence. For this we have to direct attention to the sources of the Marxist-Leninist approach to the problem cited. As shown by V. I. Lenin, the necessity for centralization is dictated by the development of productive forces and the creation of large-scale machine production. Orientation toward the highest efficiency and the highest labor productivity is the most important motivating reason which objectively dictates the necessity for centralized direction. In other words, to economize time, which K. Marx called the first economic law.

Establishing public ownership on the means of production makes centralized management workable. But its potentialities cannot be considered limitless, not restricted in any way. The concepts of centralism and independence in themselves do not express the PURPOSE of developing production; they do not have the characteristic of a criterion. They are objectively necessary to the extent that they create the conditions for the highest production efficiency. CENTRALISM, AS WELL AS INDEPENDENCE, IS NOT AN OBJECTIVE, BUT A MEANS.

The decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress defined the parameters for the country's socioeconomic development: reinforcement of the social orientation of economic growth, a policy of all-out intensification, and advancement of scientific and technical concepts into production as rapidly as possible. And development of centralism and independence is necessary to the extent that it provides for the most efficient solution of the tasks set by the party, no more and no less.

Another feature of the current conception of centralized management is the fact that it may be implemented in diverse forms and with different means. As experience is accumulated (and today we have nearly 70 years of experience in building socialism in our country and vast experience in the functioning of the socialist economic system in a whole group of countries), we look at many problems differently than before.

The fact is that planned management of the economy has taken place in a rather simple form for quite a long time—with centralized plan targets, physical ones as a rule, reduced to each production unit. In time, the objective content of planned management and the specific historical form in which it was implemented began to be identified in the public consciousness, only to be replaced by other content. Hence, this often results in completely opposite conclusions based on a common theoretical viewpoint.

Now, when problems of restructuring the economic mechanism are being widely discussed, we can often hear the opinions of enterprise managers and engineering and technical personnel that retention of centralized planning is incompatible with technical progress. The arguments expressed here are like this: in order to acquire a machine for some unit, a requisition must be written and sent to the ministry, the ministry sends it to the USSR Gosnab, which correlates and sends it to the USSR Gosplan, and so forth. It will take 2 to 3 years for the requisition to be met (if it is met). Such notions are based on the fact that centralized planning is not thought of in any form that is free of bureaucratic misinterpretations.

On the other hand, any attempt to examine the forms of centralized management which have taken shape and to replace them with ones that are different in nature is often perceived as undermining the planned foundation of the socialist economy and a retreat from our initial positions. This entirely contradictory point of view is based theoretically on the same notion: planning can be no other way. A form of planned management which is specifically historical has been consciously identified here with the very essence of the process.

This identification prevents us from showing clearly that centralized planned management can and should be carried out in different forms, depending on the scales of the economy, the level of development of productive forces, the rates of scientific and technical progress, the extent to which management personnel at all levels are prepared, and other factors. This involves a new quality of centralized management which rests primarily on the use of ECONOMIC METHODS and achievement of the goals and strategic objectives of the

state plan with the aid of a system of economic levers and methods. This is necessary in order to include the practical economic interests of persons and labor collectives and more complex social formations in the system of management.

The new concept is also related to the fact that we are looking at the enterprise and the labor collective today not only as the object of planning, but as the subject of planned activity, as an active participant in this process. The number of subjects of planned activity is being expanded substantially, and this means DEMOCRATIZATION of the planning process.

The problem of combining rights and responsibility arises here, and it should also be stated clearly and realistically. We talk a great deal about extending the rights and independence of enterprises and labor collectives, but sometimes we discuss these matters superficially, without meditating on the significance in a given direction of work. A rather simple arrangement took shape, and not without the participation of science: the adherents of independence and creative initiative work at the enterprises, and the bureaucrats who oppose independence and extension of rights in every possible way are in the higher organs of management. This is a very convenient arrangement which requires no efforts of thinking or analysis. Life has proved to be a great deal more complicated, however.

After the first steps (quite timid and cautious ones) to extend the independence of enterprises which were taken in the period of the large-scale experiment, a picture in direct contrast was revealed. Enterprises often want to go back to the way it was before. So that they are directed what to do, where to send, and what to make payment with, and it is desirable to have a document for each problem. When independence begins to be extended, it is discovered very quickly that serious responsibility is involved.

And when the burden of responsibility is felt, only then does the profound concept of restructuring begin to be understood: one becomes accustomed to responsibility through extension of independence. This is the only method of compelling persons to be responsible for results, to feel the burden which rests on a manager who has the right to make a decision.

In order to be responsible, one must have the right to make a decision. When such a right is given to a manager and a small group of specialists, it is entirely logical that their responsibility for results and the consequences of decisions made is added to it. Everyone else is indifferent to this: let the superiors solve the problem, and let them be responsible as well.

The current logic of development requires that full responsibility for quality, efficiency, and results and the rate of scientific and technical reforms be felt not only by the manager, but the collective as well. The collective should take part in the production process as a proprietor, with the right to have a deciding voice. This is what is new and what is being introduced today in the combination of centralization and independence.

THE OBJECTS AND METHODS OF PLANNING

Concentrating planning activity on strategic problems and relieving it of petty regulation is also connected with democratization of the management system. We must have sufficient theoretical clarity in the basic tenets, in understanding the structure of the national economy first of all, in approaching this group of problems as well.

THE NATIONAL ECONOMY IS AN INTEGRAL SYSTEM. IT IS MADE UP OF INDIVIDUAL CELLS--SOCIALIST ENTERPRISES AND ASSOCIATIONS, EACH OF WHICH IS A RELATIVELY ISOLATED UNIT IN AN ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP.

All the logic in the current restructuring of the management system is based on this dialectic, on the combination of the integrity and indivisibility of the national economy on the one hand, and on the separation and economic isolation of its units on the other hand. Thinking in accordance with this principle is completely unacceptable today: "If you acknowledge the integrity of the national economy and its indivisibility, this rules out any isolation, and if you acknowledge the element of isolation in the resources and circulation of the funds of an enterprise, you cannot speak of the integrity of the national economy." Schemes such as this cannot be accommodated, and the integrity of the national economy does not rule out the existence of economically isolated units. The complex system is not simply the sum total of primary units. It is not broken down into the sum of its simplest elements; it possesses a special quality--integrity. The most important proportions in the national economy--between accumulation and consumption funds, between first and second subunits, and between wages and public consumption funds--are not the sum of proportions which have taken shape at individual enterprises. National economic proportions cannot be obtained by establishing a correlation between accumulation and consumption at each individual enterprise or kolkhoz.

In this connection, there are two objects of planned management and accordingly, two aspects of the concept of planning which are often blended with each other.

The object of planning is primarily the national economy as an integral organism. And there is no other subject of planned activity aside from the economic center with its organs and institutions which can perform this function. It is the exclusive prerogative of the center and cannot be transferred to anyone, because that is inefficient and economically unjustified. Planning of the national economy as a whole has its own methods: programmed-target, balance, normative, and other methods.

At the same time, the work of primary units of the national economy is also an object of planning. In this area we can shift to rather extensive democratization of management, grant broad rights to enterprises, and abandon many traditional methods of planning their activity. For example, a system can be established in which enterprises (all of them, or at least those in specific sectors) do not receive any centralized plan targets at all for production output in physical and cost terms in their traditional sense.

Such a step is possible in light industry. And there is nothing to be afraid of here. According to the data for 1985, we produced 788 million pairs of shoes, and the United States, the FRG, England and France taken together turned out 700 million. And there are 1.5 times as many people in those countries as in the Soviet Union. We do not need so much footwear. And we do not need the kind of footwear which is being turned out by many enterprises now, either. It may be unplanned. Let enterprises produce the footwear that the consumer needs and let him order it at a wholesale trade fair.

The orientation toward quantitative growth rates today has become one of the most serious obstacles on the path of restructuring the economy and shifting it to the track of intensive development. Rates for the sake of rates—this is what results in shortages and leads to distortions in the economy and low efficiency.

It is necessary to regulate the process of economic growth with economic methods, by making use of prices and other economic levers related to application of the mechanism for distribution of profit and the organization of incomes and wages. The system of economic levers becomes the principal means of realizing the most important objectives of the state plan. This complicates the system of planning to a large extent, of course, and changes the nature of planning work.

A number of problems are emerging with respect to the STATE ORDER concept, which was reflected in the draft Law on the State Enterprise (Association). It requires careful substantiation. An attempt to simply make use of the state order as a new name for old methods is hardly justified.

In forming orders, state organs become not simply managers setting an unconditional target, but partners of the enterprise with which specific agreements stipulating mutual obligations are concluded.

A state order is presented in such form when the customer is a priority consumer whose application is obligatory for the producer. This is one aspect which distinguishes the state order from customary contract relationships as a priority form of agreement which is obligatory for the producer.

At the same time, it is necessary to ensure that it is the most profitable type of order. A system in which work for the state's targets, to provide for priority demands, is the least profitable work can hardly be considered normal. For example, in the agroindustrial complex, kolkhozes and sovkhoses can bring 30 percent of their planned output to the city and sell it at kolkhoz market prices or at least at higher prices. But it is less profitable to produce the remaining 70 percent of the output.

A state order should be provided with the most favorable conditions from the viewpoint of prices, taxes, profit distribution, and supply of material resources. This will establish an economic basis for the struggle for the right to obtain it.

ECONOMIC METHODS OF MANAGEMENT

The problem cited is linked with the concept of ECONOMIC COMPETITION, which is incorporated in the draft of the Law on the State Enterprise (Association) and is one of the most important points in the theoretical conception of restructuring the system of planned management. This involves economic competition, competitive principles and the struggle against the monopolist position of individual enterprises.

Economic competition is aimed primarily at achieving the highest goal of production--meeting the demands of the population and society with the lowest input of resources and the best product quality. The winner in this competition should have the appropriate economic privilege, and the losers will bear economic responsibility for the consequences and for their inability to meet public demand.

Competition is also necessary in the area of credit to create the conditions for obtaining credit under the competitive principle. The one who ensures that the credit will be used under the most efficient conditions should have the right to receive it. Basic restructuring of the credit field is needed for this, of course.

The concept of economic competition is developed further with competitive principles in the scientific and technical area, which changes our previous views. The existence of parallel scientific research organizations comparatively recently has been assessed as duplicative and a waste of resources. But today it turns out that this is a condition for selecting the most efficient solutions.

The most important scientific and technical solutions have to be taken without fail after competitive selection of the possible alternatives. At the same time, real economic competition must be provided for its participants, with all the economic consequences which follow.

It has long been necessary to develop a special system of measures to limit the exclusive position of an enterprise as a monopolist producer which dictates its own conditions because there are no other alternatives.

Solution of all these problems is related to extensive use of economic methods of management, based primarily on cost accounting, which has a direct effect on the economic interests of the worker, the labor collective, the brigade, the section and the shop. While cost accounting itself is a synthetic method of management, the influence of price setting, credit, tax policy, the system of payments for resources, and the mechanism for profit distribution is exerted through it on the producers. For this reason, cost accounting is a generalized economic method of management, and development of it is the main direction in the shift to economic methods of management.

Formation of a new economic mechanism has required a search for the POINT OF DEPARTURE where we have to begin resolving the problems that have accumulated. The primary unit of the national economy--the enterprise (association)--and the conditions for its economic operation has been such a point of departure.

And this is not coincidental; all the material wealth and national income is created and scientific and technical achievements are put into practical use right here. After determining the changes necessary in the primary unit, we have to proceed further, adding to and developing them by restructuring planning, price setting, and the financial and credit system and by shifting from centrally allocated resource distribution to wholesale trade in capital goods, that is, by moving from individual units in the integral system of economic management. This is the common logic of development. To a large extent, it predetermines the situation today and future steps.

A question arises concerning the prospects for development of full cost accounting. Since last year, two associations (the Sumi Machine Building Association imeni Frunze and the VAZ [Volga Motor Vehicle Plant]) have been operating under its principles, and since the beginning of this year, five industrial ministries, the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and the Ministry of Trade have been operating under its principles. Several more ministries will be added under this system in a year. Thus the extension of full cost accounting is linked with its development in breadth and by reaching more and more new areas of activity in the national economy with these methods. But enterprises and associations of ministries which have shifted to the new principles in 1987 still do not have either full cost accounting or self-financing. Whys isn't this full cost accounting? By definition, as they say. If cost accounting is a synthetic method, it cannot be fully put into effect before there is serious reform in price setting, before changes are made in enterprises' relations with financial and credit institutions, and before the shift to wholesale trade in capital goods is made. For this reason, the main prospect for development of full cost accounting is organically linked with the shift to an integral system of management as the most important direction for radical reform of the economic mechanism.

Utilization of COMMODITY-MONEY RELATIONSHIPS predetermines the development of most economic methods of management in one way or another. The depiction of commodity-money relationships as alien to socialism or inconsistent with the principles of planned management is a stage that science has already passed. We realize in principle that commodity-money relationships are necessary, and that they are in no way the relationships which existed in the 19th century and which have remained as a legacy of capitalism. Commodity-money relationships and tools have been included in the unified system for planned regulation of the economy. The main thing now is to search for the most efficient methods of utilizing them.

No matter which problem we examine--whether it is full cost accounting, self-financing, price setting, and so forth--we must return to the point of departure, to integrity. The economic mechanism and the entire system for planned management of the economy should possess this integrity and systemic nature [sistemnost].

At the same time, it is important to see that a search for universal solutions capable of resolving all problems simply and easily is not sound. Such searches are typical in our traditional thinking and characteristic not only of the past, but the present as well.

In the past, it was suggested that corn be sown all over the country, from north to south. And the solution to the food problem was seen in this. And when we say today that a brigade contract is the solution to all our problems everywhere, we are displaying that same type of thinking.

Or cost accounting and self-financing. This is one of the most progressive systems. But thinking that it is enough to approve several decrees on shifting ministries to full cost accounting and self-financing in order to create an efficient economic mechanism is a serious mistake. We cannot count on success without changing structural policy, restructuring the work of transport, serious reform in the area of money circulation and prices, and qualitative changes in planning.

Unfortunately, we cannot solve all problems at the same time, because we are still not prepared for comprehensive restructuring. At the same time, we cannot put it off even for 1 year. Time does not wait. The situation in the economy is such that energetic actions are needed. But at the same time it is necessary to look continuously at the entire system and to proceed from clear theoretical concepts. This is a crucial requirement for conceptual consistency in actions. And we can count on success over the long term only where it is fulfilled.

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8936

CSO: 1820/181

BELORUSSIAN APK ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CRITICIZED

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 28 May 87 p 2

[Article by P. Stasevich: "Anatomy of Distorted Reports: Once Again About a Phenomenon Undermining the Economic Mechanism"]

[Text] According to the data of the Central Statistical Administration, more than 2,000 farms permitted distortions of statistical reporting, exaggeration in reports and other violations in the system of the Belorussian SSR Gosagroprom in 1985 and 1986. The overall losses from machinations associated with distorted reports amounted to almost 250,000 rubles.

What can you say, those are alarming facts. It is therefore no accident that a meeting of the coordinating council of the republic's control and law-enforcement authorities was recently held in the Belorussian SSR Public Prosecutor's Office. Questions of the fight against distorted reports and fraud were again the focus of attention.

As we see, this vicious phenomenon is tenacious and yields its positions slowly. Wherein are its sources?

The first reason for exaggerated reports--on the surface, as they say--is the desire of some managers to be "on top" without bothering themselves with the everyday and not simple worries about the development of production. The striving to seem to be rather than to be and a false understanding of authority become the style of the work when managers begin to see their own failures in the post that they occupy. Distorted reports are also made by those whose desire to grab a little more of the public pie is stronger than the moral barriers of decency and honesty.

It would seem that there is no need to spend a lot of time demonstrating the truth that any leading work presupposes not only the existence of purely practical abilities but to an even greater extent certain moral qualities: honesty, high-mindedness and decency. And precisely these qualities must help the manager to make the choice in the most complex production situations. For some managers, unfortunately, the boundary between the concepts of "what is good and what is bad" turned out to be blurred.

This was precisely the case, for example, with N. Kalinovik, chairman of Kolkhoz imeni Gulyayev in Lyubanskiy Rayon. He essentially was engaged in open fraud: they put a group of milch cows in the shed, where only fatteners were supposed to be, and installed milking equipment and a refrigerating unit.

"It is shameful to lie" and "one must not deceive"--unfortunately, whether you like it or not, it is necessary to repeat these and other common truths from childhood to many grown people. And here one cannot get around making a significant addition: it turns out that it seems to some mature people, even in their official positions, that it is no longer shameful to lie but...advantageous. Judge for yourselves. At Za Mir Kolkhoz in Stolbtsovskiy Rayon alone, they paid out 23,300 rubles in wages and more than 6,000 rubles in bonuses for the production of "fake" meat.... How could machinators who were not very scrupulous about funds resist something like this?

But let us cool their ardor. All these manipulations with figures are far from being as harmless as some would like to present them. Distortion of data in reports is nothing other than masked theft from the state, hence from each of us. And those who find it uncommonly easy to make a deal with their own conscience and who incite others to do the same cannot fail to understand this.

It is sad to see collectives where they have long worked together to present the desired as actual and were caught: morbid suspiciousness, the settling of personal accounts, moroseness. Yes, the distortion of reports, being based on solidarity, ultimately will bring down any affair and sooner or later comes to the surface. It is desirable for these simple truths to be understood by those who are still trying to rely on appearances and fraud.

Labor collectives, in utilizing their right to choose a manager, must take more resolute action against distorted reports. Only a person whose practical qualities as a manager are supported by high-mindedness and unconditional honesty have the right to hold a position of responsibility. Only in this way, it seems, should the question be raised at this time.

Why are the fraud and distortion of reports that are practiced on some farms so slow and late in coming to the surface? Who is more at fault here--the controlling and law-enforcement authorities or the higher organizations and statistical services?

Unfortunately, it must be stated that all must share the blame in the prolonged wave of distortions. They got used to them and do not not give them the proper evaluation. In individual cases, they make every effort to remove the deceivers from their responsibility, closing their eyes to all machinations and presenting them as innocent pranks inevitable in economic activities. Here is a specific example. The middle of last year, the Minsk Oblast Committee for People's Control received a report on distortions of milk yields and the concealment of "extra" cows at Krasnoslobodskiy Sovkhoz in Soligorskiy Rayon. Upon arriving to look into the signal, the chairman of the people's control committee informed the RAPO [rayon agro-industrial association] workers of it. And as it turned out, he did that in vain. As early as that

evening, N. Yaroshenya, the chief animal specialist of the sovkhos, was warned of the arrival of the commission on the following day. Early in the morning, with the knowledge of sovkhos director A. Portnov, the workers of the livestock management service and accounting office gathered together all milch cows not accounted for and drove them to Kolos Section, where the fattening stock was located. In short, by the time the inspectors arrived all the cows were already grazing in the common fattening herd.

The operation carried out, as they say, without any extra concealing, could not, of course, hide all of the obvious distortions. By order of the Soligorsk RAPO, all of those guilty of them were punished severely. But what was most surprising was the fact that when we came to the farm on another complaint the secretary of the sovkhos party organization G. Mikhnovets knew nothing about the RAPO order...and the instances of distortions did not become the subject of a serious conversation among communists.

"We knew something, of course, and we discussed it among ourselves. But we did not examine this question. It is not all that important.... And, as you say, many have already been punished in the order," said G. Mikhnovets.

Here, it seems, commentaries are also superfluous. The party committee decided simply "not to notice" the crudest violations. With the tacit approval, of course, of the audit commission of the Belorussian Communist Party.

If only the managers of the authorities of other rayons "did not notice" distorted reports, receiving for their dim vision bonuses and unearned awards and titles of winners in socialist competition, as was the case for many years in Ostrovetskiy, Lyubanskiy, Belynichskiy, Braslavskiy and other rayons. There are also those protectors who do not hesitate to help the defrauders. There is still another well-known fact. By writing out invoices without goods for the purchase of tubers, workers of the Sortsemovoshch Association in Mogilev Oblast helped the Belynichi kolkhozes imeni Lenin and imeni Ilyich obtain (read: ascribe) high indicators in the sale of "second grain." And at Belynich and Drut kolkhozes, they gained the favor of those not noticing obvious fraud by selling them fresh meat and other products at preferential prices.

Unfortunately, it is not only here where those upon whom the continuation of the life of mere appearances and "shams" directly depends have warmed and continue to warm their hands with distorted reports. Clearly, many law-enforcement and control authorities lack high-mindedness and persistence in eradicating distortions. This is the conclusion reached at the above-mentioned meeting in the republic's public prosecutor's office.

Well, it is difficult not to agree with such a conclusion. It is now important for the words about the necessity of a relentless campaign against distorted reports at all levels to become specific actions. State reporting on economic affairs must be extremely precise and reflect without distortions and false appearances all real processes taking place in life. This is how the question is raised in the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and

subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. In short, the Leninist formula "socialism is accounting" must be carried out steadfastly.

As you know, they do not originate through distorted reports. One of the main reasons for their formation is the imperfection of the economic mechanism oriented toward the intermediate rather than the final results of labor. The habit of living not from the ear but from the wheel and planning from what has been achieved pushes many economic managers onto a slippery path. So many times we were witnesses to how RAPO workers went to "minus" farms with one clearly defined task--that of urgently, in their words, "finding 200 grams of milk." And they "found" it. Only it was not by means of a detailed analysis of the situation but through pumping of the "give-give" type. At other farms as well, "they gave milk" and "did not let down the rayon."

Bureaucratic administration is perhaps felt more in the APK than in other sectors. Under these circumstances, there are more "fake" applications of fertilizers, there is a galloping hectare output per tractor, etc. And when the time comes to bring in the harvest, they shrug their shoulders sadly, referring to the whims of the weather. But the weather is not at fault here. It was noted long ago that you cannot deceive the land or fertilizer it with inflated figures.

Heretofore, however, they have been trying to dispute these truths. On a number of farms, for example, the yield of feed units per hectare of agricultural land, if one is to believe the reporting documents, is much higher than from a hectare of plowed fields.

And how many different tricks, all sorts of distorted reports, and financial violations on the verge of a "foul" are required of the kolkhoz or sovkhoz manager by construction under the so-called economic method!

"The choice here is this: either wait until the RAPO allocates the necessary building materials, that is, freeze the construction project, or take a risk. I, for example, take the risk. I think that this is more advantageous for the work," one kolkhoz chairman admitted.

And let me note that most of his colleagues are forced to take risks. And this means writing out "fake" bonuses for the trips of "pushers" and the overpayment of those finishing work, raising the volume of work that they performed--fortunately, this is not all that difficult--etc. In other projects, distorted reports bloom in entire bouquets.

The measures taken recently to improve the economic mechanism in the agricultural industry were supposed to alleviate the work of managers noticeably, free their hands and give them independence. Unfortunately, however, the restructuring in this matter is not taking place as rapidly as is necessary for the cause. As before, different instructions and unfounded limitations are tying the hands of enterprises managers. Over the course of many years, moreover, many of them have forgotten how to work in an atmosphere of independence and initiative, do not know how to utilize all available possibilities for the good of the cause, and continue to operate in the old way.

Our farms are shifting with more and more assurance to full cost accounting, self-support and self-financing as well as to the introduction of the check system of control over expenditures for the production of output. Under such conditions, the roots nourishing distorted reports are cut out from under them. Whereas previously they brought unearned bonuses, under cost accounting they hit one's pocketbook. The main thing is the concern about reducing the production cost of output. And no longer do figures "taken out of the air" indicate the situation but the real final yield of fields and farm sections.

The remuneration of the labor of specialists and managers is also dependent upon final results. The contract and cost accounting are still slow in finding a way onto other farms, however, and the habit of living with unearned rubles is still strong. For this reason, distorted reporting still exists.

This is why it is so important to be more resolute in removing all obstacles on the way to the improvement of the economic mechanism and to give it an anti-expenditures nature, having oriented it toward the final results of labor. Here, it seems, is the main means in the fight against fraud and false appearances.

The difficulty of the fight against distorted reports must not serve as a justification for their viability. False appearances, fraud and distortions of state reporting undermine the economic mechanism and therefore the full strength of our laws and the force of public opinion must be mobilized for the fight against them.

9746

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ROLE OF PRIVATE PLOTS, COOPERATIVES IN KAZAKH MEAT PROCUREMENT

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 24, Jun 87 p 10

[Article by I. Vorobev, department chief, Tselinniy Affiliate, KazNII EOSKh
[Kazakh Scientific Research Institute for Agricultural Economics and
Organization: "Very Different Kilograms --On Reserves for Meat Procurement"]

[Text] Now, in Tselinograd and in other oblasts, in addition to sovkhoses and kolkhoses, consumer cooperatives are procuring meat from private plots and selling it through their stores. Surpluses are also sold by the public at private markets.

Meat from rural dwellers' private households is sold to customers through three channels: sovkhoses and sovkhoses, consumer cooperatives and livestock owners. The first procure and sell meat at state purchase prices, the second at contract prices and the third at market prices.

The state purchase price for a kilogram (live weight) of high grade beef is 3 rubles, 76 kopecks, while the contract price in the consumer cooperative system is 4 rubles. The price on the kolkhoz market is 5 and more rubles per kg. The customer pays for this system of procuring and selling the products of private plots. The winners are owners of private plots, who react like a "barometer" to price competition. They can sell to sovkhoses, kolkhoses, consumer cooperatives or on the market.

In our opinion, it is necessary to concentrate in the same hands the procurement, processing and sales of products obtained from private plots. Consumer cooperatives should do this as they have been put in charge of kolkhoz markets and can control all output, set single prices and sell it through their stores.

Experience in procuring surplus agricultural products, especially meat from private plots in Omsk Oblast deserves special attention in this regard. Consumer cooperatives here sign contracts for selling animal products and organize return sales of goods in increased demand (mixed feeds, young animals, fertilizer, etc). This stimulates active suppliers of products. During the 11th Five-Year Plan more than a million rubles were spent for these purposes.

Thanks to this way of organizing such work the number of cattle owned by the public has increased by 24 percent in the past 10 years and the number of hogs by 49 percent. Meat purchases per rural household have increased from 78 to 90 kilograms. We note that last year in Tselinograd Oblast consumer cooperatives purchased 43 kilograms of meat products per household. In Makinskiy Rayon the figure reached 85 kilograms. So, there is positive experience in organizing this work.

Almost 80 percent of the products purchased from private plots by the Omsk cooperatives are sold through the cooperative network in cities and workers' settlements. In Omsk there are 26 stores (the facilities are given leasor's rights by the gorispolkom), in rayons more than 20 specialized stores and about 1,000 departments in state grocery stores. Trade in foodstuffs at contract prices has also been organized. Consumer cooperatives account for about half of total agricultural product sales at markets in the oblast center. Cooperative prices for meat average 15-20 percent lower than at markets, for poultry -- 35 percent lower, for honey 10 percent lower and for potatoes -- 60 percent lower.

What hinders cooperators in Tselinograd Oblast from increasing meat purchases from the public? The problem is that sovkhoses and kolkhoses here fulfill sizable shares of their state sales plans by purchasing meat from the rural population. This does not orient them towards looking for reserves to increase the output of animal products on public farms.

The decree on the improvement of the economic mechanism for operations in the country's agro-industrial complex notes that livestock and poultry raised on citizens' private plots under contract are purchased by consumer cooperative organizations directly or through kolkhoses and sovkhoses and sold mainly to the local population. However, the question arises: Why should a kolkhoz or sovkhos purchase livestock for a consumer cooperative, keep double accounts and solve other conflicting situations which arise due to frequent disparities in grading livestock, weighing them and in transportation costs? After all, today a modern equipped consumer cooperative can deal directly with private plot owners when purchasing surplus products.

Apparently there should be a delineation of raw material zones for consumer cooperatives, and for kolkhoses and sovkhoses when purchasing products from private plots. This delineation should depend upon processing capacity in the consumer cooperative system. There are such processing enterprises. For example, in Tselinograd a facility processing 6 tons of meat per shift has been put into operation, a similar unit, but with a 1.5 ton capacity, is being built in Atabasar. Such enterprises are working in Makinsk and Balkashin.

In the next 3-4 years cooperatives will be able to process practically all products purchased from private plots. This approach to meat procurement will help in more completely meeting the public's demand for meat products.

PROBLEMS OF KIRGHIZ APK WITH NEW ECONOMIC MECHANISM

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 24, Jun 87 p 11

[Article by A. Smolyakov, chief, Administration for Financing the Agro-Industrial Complex, Kirghiz SSR Ministry of Finance: "Evaluate Profits"]

[Text] The economies of many sovkhoses in Kirghizia are still so wasteful and unprofitable as to hinder their conversion to full cost accounting [khozaschet] and self-financing. As previously, they run to the state for help.

Such farms are allocated large sums for the construction of housing, schools, medical and children's institutions, clubs, baths and other cultural-service facilities. State resources are also given to low profit kolkhozes to cover planned expenditures for the construction of nonproductive facilities, for maintaining children's preschool institutions and for making insurance payments.

Budget resources are now used for various measures to protect crops and animals, made fundamental improvements in land, reorganize land use, carry out anti-erosion, hydrometeorological and other work to improve crop yields and animal productivity and to increase production and purchases.

To strengthen their economies and increase their incomes kolkhozes and sovkhoses have been authorized to sell part of their output at markets and consumer cooperatives. Purchase prices are being constantly improved. Therefore, budget resources are used to pay low profit farms markups of up to 75 percent over purchase prices. All this helps improve profits and make the transition to self-support [samookupayemost] and self-financing.

Unfortunately, many low profit and money losing farms obtaining sizable sums from the state to cover their planned expenditures are not hurrying to refuse these grants and are continuing to use them to cover their production errors and wastefulness. Except for a few regions, last year was a comparatively good one for agricultural enterprises in the republic. Nevertheless, profits and profitability remain low. It is enough to note that only 126 out of 297 sovkhoses fulfilled their financial plans, while 60 farms ended the year with losses totalling more than 26 million rubles. There are also many low profit kolkhozes in the republic.

Thus, at many farms work is structured to attain gross output at any price. Production costs and product quality are not given the needed attention. The calculations are simple: a new economic year is starting, begin preparations for planting, and the state will have to give financial help. Managers at such farms know that party and soviet organizations do not permit disruptions in such work and, consequently, find the appropriate resources. The time has come to ask: How long do such farms plan to be parasites on the state? After all there are quite a few of them.

Preliminary results of agricultural enterprise financial-operating activities during 1986 were examined at an expanded board of the Gosagroprom, to which managers of all lagging farms were invited. The board made serious complaints to them for waste and the irrational use of state resources. However, the matter has not gone further than this.

It is obvious that some managers can hardly be expected to improve the work of the farms they head. Judge for yourself. Yu. Bakhtyzin, director of the Suzakskaya Broiler Poultry Factory reported to the board that last year was unsuccessful for the factory. It had ended the year losing about 2 million rubles. Naturally, the next question was: How could this occur? This factory, with a 3 million broiler annual capacity, works on state feeds and there are no other external reasons for losses. They were permitted only by the enterprise manager and specialists. Last year 42 percent of the entire flock was written off and the average daily weight gain for the remaining animals was only 8 grams. It is not hard to calculate that for a broiler to reach market weight it would have to be fed almost a year, rather than the 60-70 days called for in norms.

It is therefore not surprising that the factory was 613 tons of meat short and used 7.5 kilograms of feed for each kilogram of weight gain. As a result losses exceed 1 million rubles, when other losses and oversights are included they reach 2 million rubles. Apparently, the factory director hopes that the state will help cover all debts, make up shortages of circulating capital and again it can "be free as a breeze."

Here is another farm -- the Gosplemzavod [State Breeding Plant] imeni Strelnikovay, located near the republic's capital. At one time it was in the front ranks. Since then, however, much water has poured down from the mountains near the the farmstead of this sovkhos. It is headed by O. Koshekbekov, former director of the Ala-Too Sovkhos, released from there for economic management oversights.

This gosplemzavod is now among those with low profit, although its productivity indicators are not bad. The paradox is that high animal productivity cannot cover the director's waste of material and monetary resources. Almost 5,000 kilograms of milk are obtained from each cow on forage here, this is twice the republic average. However, milk production costs are higher by roughly the same proportion, therefore it is losing money. Meat and wool production here are also unprofitable. In general the plempzavod completed last year with more than 200,000 rubles profits, but if one includes the

324,000 rubles in price markups it obtained from the state for sales as a low profit farm, then it cannot be called profitable.

Kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Talas Oblast also completed last year in a very unsatisfactory way: 15 out of 28 sovkhoses lost money. All hopes were placed on the state, which took them under its care. Twenty eight sovkhoses in Osh Oblast also completed the year badly, with losses exceeding 9 million rubles.

Six enterprises in Kirgizptitseprom [Kirghiz Poultry Industry] had losses of about 4 million rubles.

Such, frankly speaking, deplorable financial results at some agricultural enterprises caused their indebtedness to banks, suppliers and contractors during the period since the start of the year to exceed 120 million rubles. Shortages in circulating capital were almost the same. It is not so easy to find such resources to improve the operations' financial health.

The new method of economic management consists precisely in managers and specialists themselves thinking about how to convert to self-financing. After all, there are farms on which such problems do not arise. Take, for example, the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in Alamedinskiy Rayon. Like the Gosplemzavod imeni Strel'nikovaya, it is located near Frunze. Milk production costs here are not high. As a result, every year the kolkhoz has large profits. It can be asked why do farms in the same rayon have such different financial results? I think that the problem is in the level of leadership, organization and discipline.

With the introduction of economic methods for managing the agro-industrial complex top priority is given to growth in production and procurements and indicators such as production costs, profit and profit rates in crop and animal production. While previously farms strived to fulfill plan targets at any price, now, with the transition to self-support and self-financing, they should constantly compare outlays with final results, see that all products are efficiently produced, protected, stored and more fully processed. Profit acts as an indicator for the efficiency of cost accounting, a source for covering expenditures for productive and non-productive needs and the creation of funds for development, social-cultural measures, and material incentives to collectives.

At the present stage each kolkhoz or sovkhos worker, from rank and file laborer to manager, should learn what brings benefits to the farm and more completely meets society's needs, then structure work in accordance with this. In agriculture the reduction of material and labor outlays does not always lead to reductions in production costs. Frequently their growth can be turned to a direct advantage and lead in the final accounting to increased profits. For example, additional unplanned outlays for crop care permit higher yields and lead to reductions in production costs per quintal so that they are lower than planned.

Look at additional expenditures for treatment-preventive health measures in animal husbandry. They can reduce the loss of young animals and increase animal productivity. This, in its turn, reduces product costs. In short, in each specific case everything should be weighed and the most profitable

alternative selected. This is just what is not being done by many managers and specialists at farms which are not operating economically.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes plan production on the basis of control figures for the purchase of agricultural products. This means that no matter what, farms should produce these amounts. Specialists should calculate how to assure fulfillment of purchase plans and obtain the highest profits. This also depends upon product prices. Also, farms have been authorized to sell part of their output at markets or to consumer cooperatives at contracted prices. These sales count towards plan fulfillment. Therefore, they must learn how to trade their products and offer them to customers in a form which will earn the most. This is a wide field of activity for entrepreneurial managers.

For example, why not organize small units for processing perishable produce at each farm? After all, they have now been authorized not only to trade it on the market, but also to process it and produce new food products demanded by the public. A sovkhoz or kolkhoz cannot really make sauerkraut or pickled cucumbers, tomatoes or water melon in small wooden barrels using home recipes.

From their plots, amateur gardeners prepare up to 100 types of food products for winter. One can organize such production in any kolkhoz or sovkhoz. This does not require complicated equipment. It is sufficient to select the appropriate buildings and find packaging. This work can be done by pensioners who would be happy to do it.

Undoubtedly, there are other ways of strengthening the economies of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. In one way or another they are linked to the product quantity and quality and production costs. Based upon this it is also necessary to find internal farm reserves the use of which will help increase production volume, improve its quality and reduce costs. This is the main factor for increasing profit and making the successful transition to self-support and self-financing.

11574

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INTRODUCTION OF PROMISING POTATO VARIETIES

Acceleration in Varietal Seed Production

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 7 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by K. Bechyus, professor at the Lithuanian Agricultural Academy: "Introduction of Promising Varieties"; first paragraph is source introduction]

[Text] It is known that the productivity and quality of potatoes are dependent not only upon the particular agrotechnical methods used in their cultivation but also to a large degree upon the variety of tubers employed. The editorial board asked K. Bechyus, a professor at the Lithuanian Agricultural Academy, to discuss the problems that are troubling scientists in connection with the creation, selection and introduction of new varieties and the methods for solving them.

In the absence of improvements in the organization of seed production and the introduction of new and high quality potato varieties, the further development of this important branch of agricultural production is unthinkable.

We are especially disturbed over the problems associated with accelerating the plant breeding process and the rapid implementation into operational practice of achievements realized in this area. Actually, in accordance with the presently accepted seed production system, 12 to 15 or more years pass from the creation of a new variety until it is finally introduced. Over the course of such an extended period of time, a variety often loses its value.

In searching for reserves in this regard, thought must be given to a new method for finally evaluating promising varieties. A need is at hand also for abolishing duplication. Judge for yourself. Initially, station competitive testing is carried out by plant breeders over a period of 3-5 years. Later the same work is repeated over a like number of years by specialists attached to strain testing stations. It is my belief that such "insurance" is not in the best interests of the task at hand. Is it really not possible for the plant breeders and workers attached to strain testing stations to combine this work, carry out the operations simultaneously, furnish their conclusion 3-5 years earlier and in this manner accelerate the movement of a variety into production?

Positive experience has already been accumulated in this regard throughout the republic -- in feed production. Some varieties of grasses have been regionalized based only upon the data of competitive strain testing carried out by plant breeders. And these grasses are surviving successfully in Lithuania and beyond its borders. Similar examples drawn from the experience of other countries can also be cited. For example, plant breeders (even private firms) in Great Britain are not carrying out station strain testing for potatoes. In accordance with a conclusion handed down by a special committee, a variety is turned over for so-called official study at a national institute in Cambridge and thereafter it is introduced into production based upon the evaluation given it at the institute.

There is one pressing problem -- that concerning improvements in state strain testing for potatoes in connection with the tuber disease -- nematode. In as short a period of time as possible, a conversion must be carried out over to the cultivation of only nematode-resistant varieties.

I am reminded that the Lithuanian plant breeders were the first in the country to create the nematode-resistant variety Meta. There are presently more than 10 such domestically bred varieties (4 Lithuanian, 3 Belorussian and 3 from other regions of the country). There are more than 40 in a collection nursery at the Vokeskiy Branch of the Scientific Research Institute of Farming. It is my opinion that the more promising ones should be selected from this group for state testing and that work with unstable varieties, especially foreign ones, should be terminated.

The potato nematode is spreading rapidly throughout the republic at the present time and unfortunately the quarantine measures are very ineffective, since the studies dealing with infection are carried out after the tubers have been planted. We believe that the service for the inspection of fields for contamination by nematodes should be reorganized. This work should be carried out only prior to the planting of the tubers. Clean and uncontaminated fields should be selected for the cultivation of potatoes, as is being done in northern Ireland. The tracts on specialized farms should be certified for this purpose. Some alarm is being aroused by the fact that the new varieties are being propagated at insufficiently high rates. For example, over a period of 4 years the area for the Vilnya variety in the republic increased by only a factor of five. Many problems still remain in the growing of seed potatoes. Thus, in order to obtain good seed tubers, it is recommended that the haulm be removed from the plantings in a timely manner. But this action is often overlooked on the farms and in fact even diseased bushes and impurities are not removed. Naturally, this tends to lower the yields. And how does one justify the fact that large tubers from seed production plantings are being sold as food potatoes? This is unacceptable.

I am convinced that the problem of planning the yields for seed potatoes leaves much to be desired. Indeed, it is not the gross output that is important here, but rather the quality of the tubers in terms of a number of parameters. It is believed that the seed potato yields should be 10-20 percent lower than those for food potatoes.

In addition to other measures, in order to protect the quality indicators of the varieties and varietal seed production, the procurement, transporting and storage of varietal seed potatoes and also food potatoes must be organized along new lines. Varietal planting stock, especially elite, must be transported only in packaging material, as called for in the Sortsemovoshch [Republic Office for the Production, Procurement and Sale of High-Quality Seeds of Vegetables, Melons and of Fodder Root Crops] System. If this is not done, the elite seed rapidly loses its sowing qualities and if transported during the autumn period -- it quite often is not preserved until spring.

It is time for the food potatoes to be procured, stored and sold in separate batches representing definite varieties. This is particularly true in view of the fact that quality dishes cannot be prepared from mixed tubers. This applies in particular to the production of semi-manufactured goods.

A solution must be found for the problem of strain renovation on private plots (they exceed by twofold the sowings in the public sector). Unfortunately, the production of planting stock for the changing and renovation of strains is not being planned for such plots.

The task of the farmers consists of accelerating the reorganization of varietal seed production. This represents a great reserve for increasing the production of potatoes and improving their quality.

Productivity of New Varieties

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 10 Oct 86 p 3

[Article by Yu. Lazauskas, director of the Vokeskiy Branch of the Lithuanian Scientific-Research Institute of Farming and Doctor of Agricultural Sciences: "Not All of the Reserves Have Been Used"]

[Text] In the article entitled "Introduction of Promising Varieties" (6 August 1986 issue of SOVETSKAYA LITVA), Professor K. Bechyus of the Lithuanian Agricultural Academy raised a number of important problems associated with accelerating the introduction of new varieties of potatoes into production.

It bears mentioning that the Voke, Vilnya, Aystes and Nida potato varieties created at the Vokeskiy Branch of the Lithuanian Scientific-Research Institute of Farming have proven their worth both on our fields and on the fields of other republics. For example, in 1985 the Aystes variety furnished an average of 348 quintals per hectare at the Borskiy Sovkhoz in Gorkiy Oblast. The farm expanded its seed production sowings for this variety and it will grow planting stock for other kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the oblast. The Voke potato variety is considered to be the best in the country for the processing and production of semi-manufactured goods.

In objectively evaluating the potato varieties regionalized in the republic, it should be recognized that a majority of them are highly productive. Allow me to cite some facts. Last year, at the Klaypeda Strain Testing Station, the tuber yield obtained from the Voke variety amounted to 403 quintals per hectare, Zubrenok -- 366, Reflekta -- 306 and Ogonek -- 296 quintals per

hectare. At the Vilnius Strain Testing Station, where the soil is of a light mechanical texture, the yield from the Vilnya potato variety reached 468 and from the Pirmunes variety -- 334 quintals per hectare. Excellent yields from regionalized and promising varieties, in excess of 300 and even 400 quintals on the average, were obtained at the Utena and Pasvalis strain testing stations. In 1984, at the Valkininkay Kolkhoz in Varenskiy Rayon, the Vilnya variety produced 400 quintals of tubers on each of 4 hectares. During this same year, the Voke and Vilnya varieties produced a tuber yield of 302 quintals per hectare at the Vokeskiy Experimental Farm.

These examples reveal that at the present time we have many such potato varieties that are producing outstanding yields of high quality tubers. It bears mentioning that this year there were many fine tracts of potatoes on many farms throughout the republic. And if we are able to harvest completely the crops grown, the overall yield of tubers will undoubtedly be higher than in past years.

Thus the yields and quality of the potatoes being obtained at the present time from kolkhoz and sovkhos fields are dependent for the most part upon the seed production work and agricultural practices being carried out. Special attention should be given to the planting stock -- the first condition for obtaining abundant yields. Here is the proof. On those farms where potatoes were planted this year from common clumps, the sowings turned out to be sparse and they suffered to a considerable degree from diseases and naturally the yields declined.

However, we are not satisfied with all of the regionalized potato varieties. For example, this year the tubers of the Pirmunes variety sustained considerable damage caused by scab. Actually, this particular variety is susceptible to this disease and it bears mentioning that the meteorological conditions -- dry and cold spring, hot days during July and early August with no precipitation -- were favorable for the spread of scab. Even the earliest potato variety -- Pirmunes -- suffered.

And at this point voices were heard calling for Pirmunes to be replaced by another early ripening variety. Truly, it is an old variety, having been regionalized in the republic in 1953, but there is nothing to replace it!

What is the solution? A portion of the Pirmunes plantings can be replaced by the next variety in terms of early ripeness -- Voke. However, a chief consideration in cultivating the Pirmunes potato variety -- strict adherence to the seed production and agrotechnical rules. For example, the crop rotation plan must be observed in the interest of ensuring that the potatoes do not occupy the same field more often than once every 4-5 years. Farmyard manure should be applied only in the autumn. It is very important for the potatoes to be dried out well in the spring in a bright facility and chemical disinfection carried out in a thorough manner. Optimum dosages of mineral and microfertilizers must be applied to the fields. The Pirmunes variety should not be planted on fields that have just been limed.

Why is it that the new varieties are being propagated at a slow rate? It is unfortunate that the rayons still lack proper control over the use of the

yields obtained from seed tracts. The farms sell a portion of these potatoes at trade bases (as a rule, the new varieties have fine taste qualities and are in demand by the consumers). Considerable importance is attached to ensuring that all of the potatoes from seed tracts are stored until the next year and then used for expanding the plantations of high quality potatoes

Beyond any doubt, attention should be focused on the private sector. High quality potatoes should be propagated, especially nematode resistant types, and they should be used for replacing those unknown varieties and reproduction which predominate on the private plots.

Protecting Seed Funds

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Nov 86 p 4

[Article by A. Birulev, chief of a section at the Main Administration for Scientific Support for Development of the APK and A. Budkevich, senior scientific worker at BelNIIKPO: "Complete Protection for the Seed Funds"]

[Text] At the end of the growing season for potatoes this year, the weather conditions for the crops were extremely unfavorable. This became the reason for the physiological under-ripening of the tuber rinds and for a deterioration in their resistance to phytopathogens and micro-organisms. Owing to water-logging of the soil, fungus and bacterial diseases became very widespread in nature. In a number of areas, a deterioration in the tubers was also observed owing to a deficit of air in the soil. The situation was further aggravated by the fact that many farms had neglected to remove the haulm in a timely manner and had failed to carry out pre-harvest loosening of the inter-row spacings. As a result, the keeping quality of the tubers declined considerably.

Under these conditions, the kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders and specialists must devote maximum attention to protecting the potato seed funds. At the moment of planting on each farm, there must be not less than 6-7 tons of good quality tuber material per hectare.

An example of efficient organization of potato seed storage can be found at the Niva Experimental Base in Lidskiy Rayon. Here a large portion of the seed tubers is stored in clamps equipped with vertical flow line-exhaust natural and forced ventilation. The remaining seed is placed in potato storehouses having silo and container methods of storage. Following completion of the potato treatment period, by which time the concealed tuber diseases have been fully exposed, the sorting of the tubers is organized.

Mechanized autumn sorting of potatoes at a base is employed to a limited degree, since during this period the mechanical damage to the tubers is twice as high as during the spring and their keeping quality has declined noticeably. On the farm, the straw coverings of clamps which have become wet are replaced.

The specialists display concern for certifying each batch of potatoes with an indication as to the variety, the reproduction and weight of the seed and

thermometers are installed in each clamp. The clamp temperatures are recorded on a weekly basis in work logs. An individual responsible for the storage is assigned to each clamp field. These individuals monitor the temperature regimes on a daily basis, open and close the air vents and inform the specialists when a sharp increase in temperature is noted in the clamps. These responsible individuals are materially interested in ensuring complete protection for the potatoes. In addition to the wage rate established for the carrying out of current work, they receive a bonus in the spring in the amount of 150 rubles for having ensured protection for the potatoes, with the norm for natural losses being taken into account and in the case of a loss of up to 15 percent (including natural losses) -- 100 rubles. No bonuses are issued if the losses exceed 15 percent.

It is recommended that the temperatures in the clamps be measured at two points: in the middle of the clamp and on top, where the maximum temperature is found, and on the northern side where the temperature is at a minimum. When there is an increase in temperature of more than 7-8 degrees, the clamps are cooled and snow is removed by opening the airvents and, when necessary, airholes are made in the clamps. Forced ventilation is carried out for 20-30 minutes each hour, but with the condition that the temperature of the outside air is not lower than zero. In the process, the optimum expenditure of air will depend upon the condition of the tubers from the standpoint of quality. Potatoes harvested by diggers and having up to 10-15 percent mechanical damage have air blown through them at the rate of 50-70 cubic meters per hour per ton of tubers and during the spring -- 80-100 cubic meters. For potatoes harvested using a combine and having more than 15 percent damage, the optimum expenditure of air respectively by periods is 60-80 and 100-120 cubic meters per ton per hour. The carrying out of such ventilation ensures better keeping quality and preservation of the seed qualities of the tubers. For forced ventilation, use can also be made of an MTZ-80 tractor with a fan mounted on an OVT-1A sprayer. The delivery of an air mass from the fan to a clamp is carried out with the aid of a connecting tarpaulin sleeve. For sorting the potatoes in clamps during thaw periods, plastic coverings should ideally be prepared on the farms.

For a more effective evaluation of the quality of seed potatoes placed in storage, the farm agronomists, jointly with specialists attached to seed inspectorates and plant protection stations, must carry out a phytopathological examination of all of the seed funds. Upon detecting tuber diseases or centers of decay, they should be removed immediately. Adjoining healthy tubers must also be removed together with the decayed ones, with the healthy ones being used for feed purposes. The unused waste products are disinfected using a 1.5 percent solution of magnesium chlorate or a 4-5 percent solution of blue vitriol and then buried. If the damp rot occurred as a result of suffocation, then such potatoes are not subjected to prolonged storage.

The optimum temperature for storing such varieties as Belorusskiy Ranniy, Adretta, Vyatka, Novinka, Prigoshiy-2, Ogonek, Loshitskiy and Zubrenok is plus 1.5-2 degrees and Temp -- 3-4 degrees.

A check should ideally be carried out during the winter on the condition of the potatoes by taking samples consisting of 30 tubers each. To do this, three openings are made in a clamp: one in the middle of the clamp at a distance of 20-30 centimeters from the top, two others at a distance of 30-40 centimeters from the ground, with the northern and southern sides closer to the ends of the clamp. Once the samples have been taken, the openings are stuffed with straw and thereafter warmed with either farmyard manure or peat meal.

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POTATO CROP EFFORTS IN WESTERN RSFSR, BELORUSSIA

Belorussian 'Potato' Program

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 86 p 2

[Article by N. Matukovskiy, ISVESTIYA correspondent, Minsk: "The All-Round Potato Program is Providing Belorussian Farmers With the Key to High Yields"]

[Text] This year it is not simply a matter of carrying out the conventional harvesting of the "secondary grain" -- the republic's "Potato" Program, planned for the period up to 1995, is also actively being carried out. Frankly speaking, there were few who expected it to produce such results during the first year. The farms in Brest Oblast are obtaining more than 235 quintals of tubers per hectare, Minsk -- 219, Grodno -- 214 and Gomel Oblast -- 205 quintals. Earlier, such results occurred only during the best years and only on certain farms. This year, 300 quintals is not considered to be a great achievement at many kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

What happened during a year's time? For an answer to this question, I went to Brest Oblast, which is numbered among the leading oblasts for both grain and potato production. And this is true despite its sandy and sandy loam soil. At the Pamyat Iliche Kolkhoz, we had a discussion with the chairman of the administration A. Skakun.

"Our average yield was 330 quintals. How was it achieved? We began doing everything that was recommended by the scientists. For example, they necessarily called for the seed to be disinfected. We were all aware that this had to be done and yet it was not done for lack of time. The plant density had to be carefully monitored. Again, everyone was aware of this fact: there were to be 60,000-65,000 bushes per hectare, but economies were sought. This year we maintained the norm. The plantations were treated against potato blight on six occasions this year, since the haulm prior to harvesting was as green as it was in the spring. We cut it down to feed to the livestock."

But this was not the chief "programmed" measure. During the spring, we carried out ridging on three occasions. More exactly, we destroyed all of the weeds. We started up our cultivators prior to the harvest proper. They were used to loosen the inter-row spacings, thus facilitating the work of the

combines considerably. The potatoes that were obtained were clean and free of dirt. But this was all in the past: the potatoes were harvested.

"But he did not mention to you the chief consideration" stated Leontiy Adamovich Ivchin, the 1st secretary of the Brestskiy Rayon Party Committee. (He accompanied you to the kolkhoz). "What was the most important consideration? The planting of the potatoes? This was not the problem. Was it the harvest work? The equipment is available at the present time. But the preservation of the crop was the problem of problems. Look here if you will."

Yes, I had never seen this before. Huge clamps almost 5 meters in height. They were similar to those used earlier for storage and yet dozens of tons of rotted material were discarded in the spring. This has now been eliminated. A long wooden framework extends down through the center of each clamp and near this framework there is a fan. Each clamp, which is covered on top by bales of pressed straw, is actively ventilated. Monitors installed in a clamp reveal the temperature and fans maintain this temperature in the desired regime -- up to plus 4 degrees. Each tuber is dry and seemingly "preserved." It remains in this manner until spring. There is no substantial storehouse. And there is one other important factor: whereas earlier the potatoes could be harvested only during dry weather and placed in clamps only when in a dry state, at the present time they can be harvested during all types of weather and placed in storage regardless of the moisture content of the tubers. The tubers are dried out by the fans within a matter of several hours. The Belorussian potato growers are doing this for the very first time. Is this not so?

"And if you visit our neighbors" stated L. Ivchin, "You will note that the results are even better." The team leader of a potato production team at the Pobeda Kolkhoz in Ivanovskiy Rayon, recipient of the USSR state Prize and delegate to the 27th CPSU Congress N. Klyshko is completing his harvest operations. Yes, he is truly obtaining 430 quintals from the Prigozhny-2 variety, 480 from the Novinka variety and more than 400 quintals per hectare from the Temp variety. And an interesting point is the fact that his E-686 combine is an old one.

True, the team leader is aided by the fact that in addition to the combine he also has a tractor with a windrow unit out on the field. It is not an easy task to employ a windrow unit on highly productive tracts and yet in the absence of such a unit it is impossible to achieve the desired rates. Yes, it still bears mentioning that reploting (and only after such work is carried out, is a potato field considered to be harvested) furnishes 25-30 additional quintals of tubers per hectare.

At the Sovetskaya Belorussiya Kolkhoz in Kamenetskiy Rayon, where the chairman is our old acquaintance Hero of Socialist Labor Vladimir Leontyev Bedulya, the potato harvest has almost been completed. But he is not yet in a trance: each of 300 hectares has furnished "only" 350 quintals of tubers.

"Last year, we obtained 424 quintals from each of 300 hectares. At that time we realized more than a million rubles of net income and this year..."

I have known Vladimir Leontyevich for more than 1 year and I am aware that he loves to display false modesty. The fact that he obtained 40 quintals of grain per hectare and 350 quintals of potatoes (a dry period occurred at the beginning of the tuber formation period) is viewed by him as being almost a tragedy. Certainly, it is not a tragedy but merely that he would like to obtain more. And the potential is available.

"And what about the potatoes in other oblasts throughout the republic?" I asked the deputy chairman of Agroprom [agro-industrial committee] for the BSSR N.M. Rybak, upon my return to Minsk.

"The situation is roughly the same" replied Nikolay Mikhaylovich, "although the average yield is lower. Yes and the harvest conditions are worse. For example, in Vitebsk and Mogilev oblasts it became necessary to couple the harvest combines with tractors. Be that as it may however, 98 percent of the potato fields had already been harvested. Almost all of the potatoes called for in the plan were shipped to Moscow and Leningrad. Tubers are also being shipped to the Turkmen, Kirghiz and Georgian SSR's.

Once again we are discussing the fact that it is unprofitable to ship potatoes, three quarters of which consist of water, over a distance of 1,000 kilometers. When will we put an end to such waste?

He assures me that I will soon become acquainted with the "Potato" Program, which was approved in March of this year. One of the points included in this program: to ensure the processing into potato products of 182,000 tons in 1990 and in the future -- 600,000 tons of potatoes. To convert over completely to supplying the all-union fund with potatoes in the form of finished products and semi-finished goods. Such a task has still not been assigned. The plans call for plant breeding work to be carried out in connection with the breeding of new varieties having fine taste qualities, good keeping ability and immunity against the principal diseases, for the production of chisel-cultivators, the introduction of a complete system for protecting potatoes against weeds, diseases and pests and the breeding of a virus-free elite variety. This list could be continued. Certainly, there have been vexing interruptions in the harvesting of potatoes this year -- in one area, the combines lie idle for various reasons, in another there is a shortage of motor transport and in still a third area interruptions are occurring in the shipping of potatoes to consumers.

But these are not the ones making the weather this year on the Belorussian potato fields. It is important that an efficient system has finally been created for potato production and that it has proven its vitality during the very first year.

Bryansk Oblast Potato Field Operations

Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 26 May 87 p 1

[Article by A. Glazkov, SELSKAYA ZHIZN correspondent, Bryansk Oblast: "Strict Examination"]

[Text] Even during inclement weather, the farmers in Bryansk Oblast selected bright "windows" and carried out their sowing work in areas where the soil was sandy. This made it possible to accelerate the sowing of the spring grain crops. At the same time, the potato growers were adjusting their planting complexes and preparing their seed.

"Practically the entire oblast was engaged in carrying out the potato sorting work" noted the 1st secretary of the Bryansk Oblast CPSU Committee A. Voystrochenko, "on one day off, 31,000 tons of seed were sorted. In Novozybkovskiy Rayon, which set the tone for the spring sowing campaign, the tubers were sorted under hangars and in heated garages from which the equipment had been removed. In this manner, the personnel were protected from the cold. As the saying goes, the machine operators burst out onto the fields and yet they were halted by rainfall."

When the sun came out, 800 mechanized teams and detachments commenced planting potatoes. Many achieved a high work tempo as they attempted to make up for lost time. The crews of V. Panteleyev at the Volna Revolyutsii Experimental Farm, V. Tkachev of the Foyevichi Kolkhoz in Klimovskiy Rayon, K. Latuto of the Dalniy Sovkhoz and many others worked throughout the entire daylight period, from dawn to sunset. The Leninskiy Put, Komsomolets and Reshitelnyy farms in Novozybkovskiy Rayon were the first to complete sowing their tubers on their planned areas.

In Sniryatinskiy Rayon, there was a shortage of machine operators for completely staffing the planting complexes. The needed replacements were found in Tajikistan and thereafter the transporting of 67 migrant families was organized. This year all of the potato production teams have converted over to the collective contract, with wages based upon the final results. The intensive technology is being used for cultivating the "secondary grain" on 35 percent of the areas. Its more rapid introduction into operations is being held up mainly by a shortage of machines and mechanisms. For example, the Pobeda Kolkhoz in Unechskiy Rayon acquired two KSM-4 high speed planters, which must be ganged with the high-powered MTZ-82 tractors. But the requisition for them was not satisfied. The supply of effective agents for combating weeds, pests and diseases is limited.

Under such conditions, the contractual collectives must, as the saying goes, take the bull by the horns themselves. They are displaying greater responsibility with regard to their obligations and are becoming more exacting in connection with the management of the kolkhozes and sovkhoses, insisting on complete compliance with the conditions of la contracts. Thus a team at the Zarya Kommunizma Sovkhoz in Brasovskiy Rayon revealed that one of the tracts to be used for potatoes had become overgrown with wheat grass. It is difficult to clear a field of this vicious weed in just one season.

"All of the sovkhoses must strive to achieve a high culture of farming" the machine operators stated, "last year our indicators were lowered by one such troublesome field. At first we harvested 190 quintals of tubers per hectare and later the figure "dropped" to 136 quintals.

The sovkhos must also improve its operations with local fertilizers. Pure peat must be applied in behalf of the potatoes and it must be watered with liquid farmyard manure directly out on the fields. It is clear that such organic material cannot be viewed as a compost and that it will not produce a high return. A technology has been developed in the oblast for preparing liquid manure-straw composts, in like manner as is being done on a number of other farms. Yet we are hearing nothing about this.

The contractual teams have sounded an alarm with regard to their being supplied with nitrogen fertilizers. The Dorogobuzh plant located in neighboring Smolensk Oblast has interrupted its deliveries of mineral fertilizer. Representatives of the Bryansk oblagroprom [oblast agro-industrial committee] went to Dorogobuzh, found a "common language" with the leaders of the enterprise, and decided to conclude direct contracts for collaboration. Dubrovskiy Rayon was the first to enter into this form for mutual assistance. In short, once again we became convinced regarding the aptness of the expression "no pains, no gains."

This year's spring period has confronted the Bryansk potato growers with a stern examination -- it is testing their organizational skills and their ability to carry out all of their field work in a more rapid fashion. The majority of farms are successfully passing this examination. Those which initially fell behind are now improving their operations. Nevertheless, the work tempo is still in need of improvement. Even in such a southern rayon as Starodubskiy, the output per unit is low and on some days is not even as high as one hectare. Meanwhile, time is passing. Those who are slow in carrying out their planting work and their harvesting operations in the autumn will suffer a shortfall in their harvest.

Overview of Belorussian Operations

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Mar 86 p 2

[Article by V. Lyganovskiy, deputy chief of the Main Administration for the Production and Processing of Fruit and Vegetable Products and Potatoes of BSSR Gosagroprom: "A View Into the Future"]

[Text] Over the past few years, a clear trend has been observed in potato production towards conversion of the branch over to the intensive path of development. Although the sowing areas on all categories of farms throughout the republic as a whole have declined by almost 270,000 hectares, the harvest of tubers has not decreased. The potato yield has increased by 52 quintals per hectare and potato sales to the state have almost doubled. The past year was especially gratifying. An average of 210 quintals of tubers per hectare was realized. The results in Brest and Grodno oblasts were outstanding. Here the yields amounted to 252 and 238 quintals per hectare respectively.

It bears mentioning that potato production has become a highly productive branch. It constitutes approximately 30 percent of the overall value of the gross output of farming. The production cost for potatoes on many farms does not exceed 4-5 rubles per quintal and the republic's profitability on the average is more than 60 percent.

The achievements of leading workers convincingly testify to the considerable reserves available in potato production. We have great differences in cropping power. Many farms and rayons, especially in Vitebsk Oblast, are obtaining low yields, with considerable crop losses occurring during the storage period. Naturally, the question arises: why is this happening and what means are available for improving the situation?

An analysis of the mistakes and areas of neglect provides an answer to this question. The chief miscalculation here is the failure in many instances to observe the agrotechnical requirements for the cultivation of potatoes. As is known, there are many inputs for a harvest and its quality. The neglect of any one of them invariably adversely affects the final results.

A decisive role is played by the seed. For example, within the republic an immutable rule with regard to the sowing of grain crops is that of using only 1st class seed of high reproductions. This rule is maintained at all levels and an evaluation of readiness for sowing is based upon adherence to it. This approach is a necessary and proper one.

And yet such an approach is not being employed in potato production. As a rule, only the availability of seed is taken into account. But nobody appears to be interested in the type of seed to be employed or in its sowing quality.

We must not overlook the fact that a study of leading practice is one means for achieving success. Thus definite interest is being displayed in the experience accumulated in Holland, where throughout the country as a whole 400 and more quintals of tubers are being obtained per hectare. This country, which is known for its highly organized potato seed production operations, supplies seed for many countries throughout the world.

Holland's experience in the production of seed potatoes was checked in 1985 and 1986 by workers attached to the Belorussian Scientific-Research Institute of Potato Growing and Fruit and Vegetable Production at the imeni Kotovskiy Experimental Base in Uzdenskiy Rayon. The entire technology was directed towards growing healthy, in the broad sense of this word, tubers of standard size (25-60 grams). It was based upon planting only germinated tubers with a density of 70,000 per hectare, minimal dosages of nitrogen fertilizer (lower by a factor of two than those used for food sowings), waging a thorough campaign against diseases and carriers of viruses, complete destruction of the haulm once the tubers have reached standard weight, early harvest operations (at the end of July and the beginning of August) and mandatory completion of the post-harvest treatment period.

The degree of exactingness imposed by the Dutch farmers with regard to observance of the technology for obtaining healthy seed is borne out by the

fact that the growing of food or technical potatoes is forbidden in the zones in which seed sowings are concentrated. The work concerned with raising seed is evaluated not according to cropping power but rather based upon the yield of tubers deemed suitable for seed purposes.

Unfortunately, we tend to oversimplify our potato seed production operations, even at many experimental bases. The initial seed obtained at the Institute of Potato Growing and Fruit and Vegetable Production is turned over to these farms for further propagation. At these farms, owing to a desire to obtain higher yields, and not necessarily more seed, they tend to neglect the more important technological requirements (optimum planting density, ratio of mineral fertilizers, sanitary cleaning, campaign against carriers of viruses, removal of haulm and others) and thus they negate the efforts put forth in the seed production work. Thus the Spartak Experimental Base in Shklovskiy Rayon (Director V. Gromov and Chief Agronomist V. Stalmakov) supplied the kolkhozes and sovkhoses with 1,370 tons of elite seed from the 1986 harvest. However, 84 percent of this seed was considered to be of sub-standard quality. More than one half of the sub-standard seed was sold by such bases as Pogodino in Goretiskiy Rayon, Cherikov in Cherikovskiy Rayon and Penchin in Buda-Koshelevskiy Rayon. Because of the attitude they displayed in carrying out this work, the leaders and specialists of these and also a number of other farms received administrative and material punishments.

The situation was even worse in connection with the production of seed at many rank and file farms. More often than not, seed tracts were generally lacking. At some kolkhozes and sovkhoses, the seed placed in storage was that which remained following sales to the state. Such practice does not bode well for potato production operations generally.

There is still one other aspect of seed work that bears mentioning. Prior to planting and for the purpose of combating diseases and obtaining uniform seedlings, the seed should necessarily be subjected to hot air warming and chemical disinfection. However, these methods are not being employed on an extensive scale. Last year, for example, only 25 percent of the tubers were so treated.

At the present time, with the republic's potato production operations striving to reach the 250-300 quintal level, radical improvements are required in the work being carried out with seed at all levels. Measures have been developed in this regard by Gosagroprom [State Agro-industrial Committee] for the BSSR. They call for an increase in the production of elite seed on a non-virus basis, a sharp increase in quality and annual strain renovation at kolkhozes and sovkhoses. A basically new evaluation for the work of experimental bases and for providing them with incentives has been defined. They must be released completely from the sale of marketable potatoes, a practice which is still continuing. Henceforth, the seed yield and not the potato yield will be taken into account at these farms. Only standard seed will be considered in the sales plan.

The plans call for measures for strengthening the logistical base for seed production and for increasing the volumes for seed production on a meristematic basis. Laboratories for the accelerated propagation of the more valuable varieties will commence operations this year.

Radical improvements are required in intra-farm seed production. Special subunits must be singled out at each kolkhoz and sovkhos for the cultivation of potato seed and this valuable work must be converted over to a contractual basis.

The agricultural and academic science must make a large contribution towards improving seed production and creating new and highly productive multiple purpose and disease resistant varieties.

In terms of their biological characteristics, potatoes require loose and well aerated soil. This condition is not always satisfied. The traditional methods -- autumn plowing, spring cultivation, spring plowing and thereafter inter-row cultivation of hilled up areas -- do not ensure the required soil consistency, especially in the case of heavy textured soils in Vitebsk Oblast and on a number of farms in Mogilev, Minsk and Grodno oblasts. In the case of such cultivation, the potato tubers develop under conditions involving a raised degree of soil compaction and in the event of excessive moisture, which occurs rather often, a shortage of air. In the process, according to humble estimates by scientists, the yield declines by 30-40 or more percent. Moreover, the working conditions for harvesting equipment become more complicated on such areas, more energy expenditures are required and greater losses are sustained.

Our industry is producing equipment which ensures good soil preparation and which makes it possible to maintain the soil in a loose state during the potato growing season. This includes sweeps and chisel-cultivators for deep loosening, cultivators with active working organs and cutters of various marks, which must be employed extensively for the pre-planting cultivation of soil, especially on areas from which the rocks have been removed. For inter-row cultivation work, use should best be made of cultivators equipped with chisels, two or three stage arrow-shaped cultivator tines, rotary harrows and spring-actuated rotary harrows. With such a set of equipment, damage to shallow planted tubers is eliminated.

In view of the conditions prevailing in the republic, special importance is attached to combating late blight of potatoes. On more than one occasion, we have become convinced concerning the harm caused by this disease and its insidious nature. Nevertheless, many mistakes and miscalculations are being tolerated. Such was the case last year when it appeared that the disease did not pose any special threat. It actually turned out otherwise. The plant protection services of kolkhozes and sovkhos had a great amount of work to carry out in order to prevent the situation from becoming worse. The potato haulm remained green right up until the last moment and the tubers grew actively even in early September. And many were pleased with this. However, the disease appeared prior to the beginning of the harvest work and especially in those areas where no haste had been displayed in gathering up the haulm. Under rainy weather conditions, the infection entered the soil and damaged the

tubers on a mass basis. Despite an increase in the gross yield, losses were subsequently sustained as a result of poor storage for the tubers. The miscalculation with regard to seed sowings turned out to be especially harmful.

A delay in gathering up the haulm or neglect in carrying out this measure, results in a general reduction in the quality of the crop. The tubers are unable to increase in size prior to the harvest, they sustain severe damage during the harvest work, sorting and numerous shipments and they lose their marketable appearance and keeping quality.

One conclusion springs to mind: henceforth, in all areas and on a very strict basis and at least 1 week prior to the harvest, the haulm should be gathered up from all of the marketable sowings and from the seed sowings -- just as soon as 65-70 percent of the tubers reach the size of the standard sowing fractions. Initially the haulm should be gathered up mechanically and thereafter it should be burned with the aid of dessicants.

In recent years, the problem concerned with raising the quality of the potatoes being procured has become more acute. Many farms have taken a fancy to applying nitrogen fertilizer to the potato fields, especially ammonia liquor and anhydrous ammonia. A violation of the proportions in mineral nutrition results in an accumulation of raised dosages of nitrates. Such tubers will contain less starch, have lowered taste and technological qualities and will not store well. Yet experience has shown that potatoes respond well to ZhKU. Considerable importance is also attached to applying organic material in behalf of potatoes. This should be done in the autumn and even better -- in behalf of the predecessor crop.

Radical improvements are needed in the preparation of potatoes for sale. In actual practice, the non-standard portion reaches 20 or more percent in many instances. Quite often the receiving points are supplied with a mixture of small, damaged and decayed tubers.

Thus, for example, one out of every five tons of potatoes delivered last year by kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Minsk Oblast to the city of Minsk for the purpose of satisfying trade and public catering requirements was considered to be of non-standard quality. The deliveries of non-standard potatoes from Dzerzhinskiy Rayon amounted to 24 percent, Kopylskiy -- 27 and Chervenskiy and Berezinskiy rayons -- 29 percent. Many low quality tubers were received from farms in Vileyskiy Rayon. Such mismanagement is viewed as being very costly for all concerned. The kolkhozes and sovkhoses lose in terms of money and feed for their livestock and the trade organizations -- money and marketable products. The population is expressing fair criticism with regard to the low quality of the food potatoes.

Serious work remains to be carried out in connection with establishing order in the regionalization of potato varieties, with the raw material zones being taken into account. Different types of varieties -- table, technical (for industrial processing), fodder and general purpose -- are being cultivated throughout the republic. However, under the existing system the fodder variety is often sent for industrial processing and for food purposes, while

surplus amounts of the table or technical varieties (the more valuable ones) are used for feeding to livestock. Different varieties become mixed during the harvest and procurement operations.

The following fact serves to confirm the above. Last year, an experimental plant for the production of potato products in Marinaya Gorka received for processing only 86 tons of varieties deemed suitable for this purpose from farms in Pukhovichskiy Rayon. This amount represented only 10 percent of the plan. All of the remaining amount -- was either a mixture of varieties (a convincing sign of the absence of elementary seed production operations in the rayon) or it consisted of varieties considered to be unsuitable for the production of potato products.

The kolkhozes and sovkhoses in our republic have fine cadres of potato growers, rich experience and a strong logistical base for the further development of potato production. A real opportunity exists for achieving a yield of 300-350 quintals in the future. In this regard, the agenda item concerning preservation of the crop is of extreme importance. It is no secret that a considerable portion of the tubers grown is lost each year during storage. In order to reduce the waste products to a minimum, we must first of all ensure that only high quality products are placed in storage and secondly we must undertake the construction of potato storehouses. Such a trend is already in progress.

The status of potato production in the republic characterizes the level of our farming on the whole. The services of Gosagroprom, science and the kolkhoz and sovkhos potato growers are under an obligation to make our potato production operations more stable and efficient and to eliminate the bottlenecks and backwardness.

Tending of Potato Crop Discussed

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 May 87 p 4

[Text] This year we had favorable weather conditions not only for the planting but also for the development of the potatoes.

In accordance with the requirements, the first cultivation was carried out 5-7 days following the planting. Hilling accompanied by harrowing makes it possible to destroy 80 percent of the weeds and if this work is 5-6 days late in being carried out, only 30-40 percent of the weeds are destroyed. A second pre-seedling hilling with harrowing is carried out 6-8 days following the first one. In a number of areas a lag is allowed to take place in the periods for carrying out the first and subsequent cultivations and this tends to lower their effectiveness in combating weeds and does not ensure optimum conditions for sprouting of the tubers.

Under conditions involving packing of loamy soil, the first cultivations should be carried out using hilling units in combination with chisel-shaped rippers to a depth of 14-16 centimeters. The span of the wings of the hilling units is established in a manner such that the field's surface is ridged and the soil is dried out well.

On light textured soils and when there is a shortage of moisture, the depth of the cultivation must not exceed 10-12 centimeters and the surface of the field remains weakly ridged following cultivation.

When use is made of chisel-shaped rippers, the protective zone during the initial tendings must be 10-12 centimeters and during subsequent ones -- as the plants develop -- it is increased to 15 centimeters.

For the effective destruction of weeds, a chain harrow must be installed at an angle of 70 degrees to the direction of movement of the unit.

For tending the crops, use is made of KON-2.8 BM and KRN-4.2G row cultivators with a chain harrow.

When use is made of the herbicides Sitrin or Zenkor, the number of mechanical cultivations is reduced to three. The herbicides are applied following two pre-seedling hillings with harrowing, prior to the appearance of the potato seedlings. Mechanical cultivations should not be carried out for a period of 3-4 weeks after the herbicides have been applied. In actual practice, the operators appear in a hurry to use the herbicides and this tends to lower their effectiveness.

During the period devoted to tending the plantings, a fertilizer top dressing should be applied to those sectors which earlier received an inadequate amount. A nitrogen top dressing should ideally be carried out prior to the appearance of the potato seedlings or during the first inter-row cultivation of the seedlings. Potassium fertilizer can be applied during both the pre-seedling and post-seedling periods, right up until the last inter-row cultivation before the rows close over.

Potato Planting Delayed

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 May 87 p 1

[Text] Owing to the water-logging of soil on many farms in Vitebsk and Mogilev oblasts, the completion of the potato planting work is being delayed. The optimum periods for carrying out this work have passed. Each day of delay shortens the growing season and this will result in a shortfall in yield and in lowered quality in the tubers.

Thus it will be necessary in this regard, taking into account the conditions prevailing in each sector, to undertake measures aimed at completing the potato planting work within the next 3-5 days, with special attention being given to planting only healthy tubers.

Simultaneously with completing the potato planting work, timely and high quality tending of the sowings of this crop should be organized on all of the farms and in a manner such that the potato fields will be maintained in a loose and weed-free state.

Use of Herbicides

Minsk SELSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 May 87 p 3

[Text] In the campaign carried out against weeds in the spring, prior to the appearance of the seedlings, use must be made of Sitrin. Purposeful use will be made of this herbicide on farms which cultivate potatoes using the industrial technology. In addition to Sitrin, use is also being made of Prometrin and Zenkor. Zenkor can be used on potato seedlings when the height of the plants is not more than 7-10 centimeters.

Largest Potato Field

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Bryansk--Approximately 35,000 hectares, or one third of the sowings of the largest potato field in Russia, are being cultivated using intensive technology. Prior to the commencement of the first post-sowing cultivation of the potatoes, oblagroprom [oblast agro-industrial committee] supplied the kolkhozes and sovkhoses in 22 rayons with general purpose soil cultivation implements produced at repair enterprises.

Planting In Arkhangelsk

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Jun 87 p 1

[Article by G. Kalinina, Arkhangelsk Oblast: "Secondary Grain"]

[Text] Even those in northern villages are not accustomed to seeing their fields covered with snow in late May. This year the weather produced just such a "surprise" for the farmers. But despite these complicated conditions, work continued out on the fields. The Velsk Sovkhoz Technical School was one of the first in the oblast to commence sowing potatoes. As is known, the farms are authorized to sell up to 30 percent of their field crop husbandry products at markets in behalf of the state plan for purchases. This is precisely what the Vilchan workers plan to do with their early potato crop. The planting of tubers is also being carried out in Sargapolskiy, Nyandomskiy, and Ustyanskiy rayons.

Early Planting in Moscow

Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 May 87 p 1

[Text] Moscow--The planting of early potatoes has commenced in Moscow Oblast. This year all of the potatoes in the Moscow region will be grown using progressive technology.

7026

CSO: 1824/313

KAZAKH PARTY APPEAL FOR LIVESTOCK FEED IMPROVEMENT

Alma-Ata KAZAKHISTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 87 1

["Appeal of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan to workers of the agro-industrial complex, industry, construction, transport, and to all workers of the republic for the utmost increase of feed production in 1987"]

[Excerpts] After hearing our republic's progress report on fulfilling tasks set by the Party in livestock development, the Central Committee of the CPSU has noted that Food Program goals are not being met with respect to grain, feed, and livestock production in Kazakhstan.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan deems it necessary first of all to stabilize the grain economy. Grain is the basis not only for food but for forage.

Grain farmers of Kazakhstan, on the basis of implementing intensive technology, are called upon to receive this year not less than 12.5 quintals of grain from a hectare, to produce 29 million tons, to sell to the state 16.5 million tons, and to establish the needed seed, forage and other stocks.

The tasks of the "Feed and Protein" program are not being fulfilled. One feed unit contains only 87 grams of protein. This is the reason for low feed quality, which retards the productive development of livestock and causes feed overexpenditure per unit of production.

Specific tasks at the present time are: to procure in the current year not less than 23 quintals of coarse and succulent feed per standard head of livestock in the republic, or 5.5 quintals more than last year. Accounting for climatic conditions and the length of the stall maintenance period, it is necessary that farms of Kustanay, Severo-Kazakhstan, Turgay, Kokchetav, and Tselinograd oblasts have from 28-31 quintals of feed units; in Alma-Ata, Vostochno-Kazakhstan, Pavlodar and Karaganda oblasts, 23-26 quintals; in Aktyubinsk, Semipalatinsk and Uralsk oblasts, 21-22 quintals; in Taldy-Orda and Guryev oblasts, 15-16 quintals; and in Mangyshlak Oblast, 4 quintals of feed units.

Feed procurement volume needs to be considerably increased by modern technology. Special attention must be devoted to increasing the hay and "monokorm" harvest, and measures must be taken to ventilate the hay. In the production of succulent feed, the raising of early and medium-ripening corn hybrids must be emphasized so that not less than 7.8 million tons of silage with ears of milky-waxy ripeness may be laid in--and only in lined trenches. In feed silage, bacterial fermentation and chemical preservatives must be broadly applied.

It is necessary to pick up the pace of work in increasing the productivity of natural feed lands. Radical improvement of 870,000 hectares of hay lands and pastures, reseeding of 700,00 hectares of old grass lands, development of 742,000 hectares of solonchaks land, and the fencing in of one million hectares of arid lands are also necessary.

It is important to improve feed storage everywhere, and to cut losses. For a long time insufficient attention has been paid to construction of feed storage facilities in the republic, with the result that there has been storage for only 32 per cent of the haylage and silage, and still less for hay and root crops. Nearly half of the feed that is being fed to livestock is unprepared and unbalanced. It is necessary to correct the situation as soon as possible, and to accelerate the construction of feed storage units and feed shops.

The milk yield in Kazakhstan must be brought up to 2,300 kilograms per cow; the delivered weight of cattle to 420 kilograms; hogs, to 110 kilograms; and sheep, to 40 kilograms. It is necessary to produce 1.36 million tons of meat in slaughter weight, 5.16 million tons of milk, and to exceed procurement plans for all types of livestock production. Production costs must be reduced.

Central Committee, Communist Party of Kazakhstan

CSO: 1824/334

KAZAKH FEED PRODUCTION PROBLEMS NOTED

Tasks Publicized

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 87 p 2

[KazTAG report: "Feed--An Urgent Topic"]

[Text] On 14 May the press center of the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan held a press conference devoted to the tasks of mass information media concerning the illumination of the fight waged by workers of the republic's agro-industrial complex for strengthening the feed base and fulfilling annual plans and socialist obligations. A. P. Rybnikov, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan, spoke before the republic's newspaper, television, and radio workers and representatives of the central press.

It was stressed that the attainment of revolutionary transformations in the production of grain, meat, milk, and other products is now the main thing in the agroprom system. An extensive introduction and a skillful application of intensive technologies and a high standard of agriculture--this is the correct path to this.

On every farm it is necessary to sow and take care of crops in an organized and high-quality manner and to make prompt and thorough preparations for harvesting. We will have to adopt the envisaged goals for the procurement of all types of field and farm products, to have, on the average, no less than 23 quintals of feed units, without taking grain fodder into account, per standard head of livestock, to fully provide public, as well as individual, livestock with them, and to accelerate the construction of projects for the storage and preparation of feed, enlisting the forces of patronage enterprises and construction organizations for this. The possibilities for this exist on every sovkhov, kolkhoz, and rayon. It is necessary to introduce the brigade contract and wages for the final result and a high quality of output, to improve the crop structure, and to increase the yield of both irrigated and nonirrigated land everywhere.

Illuminating these problems in a multifaceted and profound manner, at the same time, journalists, in the light of the decisions of the 27th party congress, the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, and the 8th Plenum of

the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan, are called upon to raise in a more decisive and substantiated manner problems of selecting and training agroprom personnel, increasing their responsibility, developing the initiative and enterprise of workers, kolkhoz members, and specialists, accelerating scientific and technical progress, and introducing advanced experience. Everything connected with the realization of the decree of the CPSU Central Committee concerning the development of animal husbandry in Kazakhstan and the "feed and protein" program should not disappear from newspaper pages and television and radio broadcasts. Improvement in the activity of party, Soviet, trade-union, and Komsomol bodies, RAPO, and oblast agroproms and increase in the efficiency of the competition among field and farm workers are among the most important topics of mass information and propaganda media.

Answers to journalists' questions were given.

Party Concerns

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 87 pp 1-2

[KazTAG report: "Intensive Field Reserves--Into Operation"]

[Excerpts] As already reported, the tasks of party, Soviet, and economic bodies concerning the further increase in grain and feed production and an unconditional fulfillment of the plan and socialist obligations for 1987 were discussed at a meeting of members of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan with first secretaries of oblast party committees and chairmen of oblast executive committees of Kokchetav, Kustanay, North Kazakhstan, Turgay, and Tselinograd oblasts in the city of Kokchetav on 18 May.

An acute feed problem is on the agenda. Last year the assignment of the "feed and protein" program was underfulfilled by 4.3 million tons of feed units and for digestible protein, by 520,000 tons.

Party, Soviet, and economic bodies must fundamentally reorganize the work in feed production. This year the republic should procure no less than 23 quintals of feed units per standard head of livestock. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses should engage in feed production in the same manner as in grain production. We can no longer tolerate the fact that the shortage of high-quality feed is covered by grain, often bread grain. It is important to realize that tons of protein and amino acids, not tons of hay and silage, are needed. This is the essence. But, in fact, what is our situation? For example, there were 80 grams of protein per feed unit in North Kazakhstan Oblast last year. The procurement of substandard hay comprised one-third there; of haylage, 59 percent; of silage, 47 percent; of grass meal, 38 percent. There is a similar situation in Kokchetav and Tselinograd oblasts.

Genuine organizational work on improving the state of affairs in feed production should be carried out everywhere. For this it is necessary to make it an independent sector everywhere and to take measures to increase the yield of pulse and fodder crops and to improve the structure of sown areas. In the

feed wedge it is necessary to expand the areas sown with high-protein crops, primarily peas, vetch, perennial leguminous grass and rape. It is necessary to more widely use mixed, combined, and repeated sowing, to sow more corn for silage according to grain technology, to manifest concern for the green conveyor for animal husbandry, and to improve the quality of feed, primarily through the introduction of active ventilation and planting of corn for silage with ears of milky-waxy ripeness.

The task lies in procuring no less than 31 quintals of feed units per standard head of livestock in Kokchetav and Tselinograd oblasts during the current year and 30 quintals, in Kustanay, North Kazakhstan, and Turgay oblasts.

It is time to introduce order in feed storage and utilization everywhere. For the time being, however, the republic is provided with only one-half of the [necessary] faced silage and haylage storage facilities. This is true mismanagement. It is necessary to enlist industrial patronage enterprises and construction organizations with a view to solving this problem in 2 or 3 years. Attention to feed shop construction should also be intensified.

In accordance with the "feed and protein" program it is important to increase the rates of work on fundamentally improving and developing solonchaks land and regrassing old perennial grass. It is necessary to significantly improve the growing of seeds of feed crops, especially of leguminous grass.

In response to the appeal by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan to all workers it is necessary to take measures to create a guaranteed reserve of feed in every oblast, rayon, and farm and to fully provide public animal husbandry and livestock in citizens' private use with it. Only under these conditions will the republic be able to get out of the stagnation and to ensure intensive animal husbandry management.

Party, Soviet, and agro-industrial bodies must intensify the work on transferring APK subdivisions to the principles of collective labor, owing to which about 80 percent of all the grain gathered in the republic was produced on 60 percent of the areas last year. However, some farms have a formal attitude toward the introduction of advanced forms of labor organization. Therefore, many collectives disintegrate. For example, this was the case on the Novobratskiy Sovkhoz in Tselinograd Oblast and on the Tokushinskiy Sovkhoz in North Kazakhstan Oblast.

For this and other reasons in our republic, on the whole, in plant growing only 77 percent of the subdivisions are now encompassed by the collective contract and in animal husbandry, 67.

Mowing Lag, Equipment Readiness

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 87 p 1

[KazTAG report: "High Rates for Sowing and Feed Production"]

[Excerpts] Farms in Alma-Ata, Dzhambul, Taldy-Kurgan, and Chirchik oblasts are mowing grass. The first hundreds of thousands of tons of hay and haylage

have been procured. However, all the oblasts are slow in hay harvesting, fail to keep to feed procurement schedules, and allow a considerable gap between mowing and stacking. Not all feed harvesting equipment has been put into operation.

A check has shown that party, Soviet, and economic bodies in Chimkent Oblast have not reorganized their activity in accordance with the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee. The appeal by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan to all the republic's workers for the maximum possible increase in feed production in 1987 has not been discussed in all checked labor collectives. The proper intensity in work on realizing the "feed and protein" program has not been created. The existing conditions and possibilities favorable for this are not utilized sufficiently. The optimum grass mowing time is missed. Only one-fifth of the lucerne has been mowed during the first cutting. Farms in Dzhetyysayskiy, Bugunskiy, Keleskiy, and Saryagachskiy rayons are especially slow.

Not all equipment was ready for operation by the beginning of the green harvest. Owing to the lack of coordination in organization and clumsiness on the part of managers and specialists of farms and RAPO, many hay mowing units are idle in Leninskiy, Lengerskiy, Keleskiy, and Saryagachskiy rayons. In the oblast daily output per blade is 3.4 hectares, which is much less than planned. It is still lower in Dzhetyysayskiy and Kirovskiy rayons.

There is no proper attention to the quality of feed. Not much hay is dried by the active ventilation method. The content of protein in it is not determined by laboratory methods. About one-half of the one-fifth of the haylage mass checked in Algabasskiy Rayon has been classified as substandard. On the Novyy Put Sovkhoz, the Sovkhoz imeni 22 Partysyezda, the Keleskiy Sovkhoz, the Sovkhoz imeni Chapayev, the Put k Kommunizmu Kolkhoz, the Kolkhoz imeni 22 Partysyezda in Dzhetyysayskiy Rayon, and the Kommunizm Kolkhoz in Lengerskiy Rayon a haylage mass with an increased moisture is placed in trenches and trench filling schedules are not kept to. It is necessary to organize temporary feed quality control centers at the base of veterinary laboratories and to widely use instruments for rapid analyses.

Proper work on increasing the yield of the irrigated wedge is not carried out. Owing to mismanagement, 9,400 hectares of irrigated arable land have not been drawn into agricultural turnover. Only three-quarters of all the sprinkling machines have been prepared and put into operation. The first irrigation of lucerne has not been completed to this day and Kirovskiy and Dzhetyysayskiy rayons have not embarked on it. The water utilization coefficient is low.

This happens, because most farms have not made feed production a separate sector and do not take active measures to introduce advanced forms of wages and labor organization and brigade and family contracts based on cost accounting principles.

Such a reserve as manual grass mowing on unsuitable land is not utilized. Some collectives of industrial enterprises, construction organizations, and institutions should also be mobilized for these purposes.

On farms there is still a great deal of formalism in the organization of socialist competition. The cultural and everyday conditions necessary for participants in the green harvest have not been created in Kelesskiy and other rayons.

The construction of feed storage facilities is carried out at slow rates in the oblast. Silage and haylage structures for only 2,000 tons have been put into operation during 4 months of the current year, while the plan calls for 69. Not a single feed shop has been built and the commissioning of hay and fodder root crop storage facilities is not planned.

Party committees and Soviet and economic bodies must attain the maximum possible increase in feed procurement, utilizing all the possibilities for this with a view to preparing a 1.5-year reserve of hay, haylage, and silage.

11439

CSO: 1824/291

LITHUANIAN PARTY DECREE ON FEED PRODUCTION TASKS

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 2 Jun 87 pp 1, 3

[Decree of the Seventh Plenum of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee "On the Tasks of the Republic Party Organization in Carrying Out the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee 'On Significant Shortcomings in the Work of Party, Soviet and Economic Authorities of the Lithuanian SSR, Odessa and Samarkand Oblasts in Increasing the Production and Raising the Quality of Feed'"]

[Text] Having heard and discussed the report of Comrade P.P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, the Lithuanian Communist Party Plenum considers that the criticism contained in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee addressed to the party, soviet and economic authorities of the republic is correct and well-founded.

The Lithuanian Communist Party Bureau, Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, Gosagroprom [State Agro-Industrial Committee], other ministries and departments of the republic, Kapaukas and Alitus gorkoms, Lithuanian Communist Party raykoms, rayispolkoms, RAPO's [rayon agro-industrial associations], party, trade-union and Komsomol organizations, and farm managers and specialists failed to achieve a fundamental change in feed production in the light of the demands of the 27th CPSU Congress and January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Many farms and rayons of the republic are poorly utilizing the established production and technical potential, extensive factors still predominate in the development of plant growing and animal husbandry, and the rate of agricultural production is low. The Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum considers the situation intolerable when the development of the fodder base has long lagged behind the real needs of the intensive management of animal husbandry and when from year to year a considerable share of the farms and overall of rayons are not providing themselves with feed of the necessary quantity and quality. In 1986, many farms procured 15 to 16 quintals per standard head of livestock but 61 kolkhozes and sovkhozes procured less than 13 quintals of feed units of coarse and succulent fodder. A major shortcoming in feed production is the low quality of the feed and its imbalance in protein and other nutrients. The protein deficit in feed of their own production reaches 17 percent and its content in one feed unit of

winter fodder amounts to an average of only 91 grams for the republic. At a number of farms and even rayons, the "Feed" programs are not intensive and do not consider all of the reserves for increasing and especially for improving the quality of feed. The necessary persistence is lacking in the realization of the "Feed" program and measures foreseen by the decree of the Fifth Plenum of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee.

Prolonged stagnation in the production of grain is not being overcome. At 139 farms in 1986, the grain yield did not reach 20 quintals. The republic's average annual yield of legumes is only 20-23 quintals per hectare. This is the result of the inadequate introduction of intensive technologies for the cultivation of grain crops. A number of farms have no area for tuning up agricultural machinery and allow gross violations of the requirements of agricultural technology.

The republic has large tracts of improved lands but the yield from them is not high. On many farms, the productivity of cultivated meadows and pastures is low and the pace of their renewal and fundamental improvement is slow. There are few legumes in the structure of herbage. Areas are being expanded slowly and the yield of clovers, alfalfa, rape, lupine, peas, vetch and other leguminous crops is low.

There are significant omissions in seed growing for perennial grasses. Many farms of Shilalskiy, Shilutskiy, Vilnyuskiy, Shirvintskiy and Rokishkiy rayons fail every year even to meet their own needs for clover seed.

Not enough attention is being paid to the quality of the feed being procured. Last year in the republic, only 59 percent of the hay procured was first class, 79 percent of the haylage and 62 percent of the silage. Only 17 percent of the herbal meal was first class. On the farms of Zarasayskiy, Shalchininskiy and Pasvalskiy rayons, the quality of almost the entire procured herbal meal was below first class and part of it was altogether substandard. Only 39 percent of the silage was laid away after applying preservatives and it was only one-fourth on the farms of Kedayskiy, Telshyayskiy, Vilkevishskiy, Panevezhskiy and Pakruoyskiy rayons.

The feed storage base is lagging noticeably behind the real needs and therefore 11 percent of the hay and 20 percent of the silage are stored in open areas. This situation was particularly unsatisfactory on the farms of Pakruoyskiy, Ignalinskiy, Shalchininskiy, Birzhayskiy, Shilutskiy and Shakyayskiy rayons. At the same time, the available haylage towers are less than half utilized. A number of farms have not established the proper accounting for procured fodder, its preservation and protection against fires. In many rayons and on many farms, feed procurement has still not been distinguished as a separate economically valid sector and the managers and specialists are not taking personal responsibility for the fulfillment of the tasks in fodder procurement. The collective and family contracts are not being introduced into feed procurement adequately and machine operating personnel are being given inadequate training in progressive technologies for the production of fodder.

There are many problems in preparing fodder for feeding. Poor use is being made of the feed shops of the KORK type in Birzhayskiy, Pakruoyskiy, Zarasayskiy and other rayons. Some of them are making inefficient use of concentrated feeds. About one-third of the grain fodder in the republic is fed only in a partially prepared form. Proper measures are not being taken to reduce the share of concentrated feeds in the rations of livestock.

The mixed-feed industry is lagging behind the requirements of animal husbandry. The poor provision of this industry with protein raw material is substantially reducing the efficiency of the production and utilization of mixed feeds. There are instances in the sector where herbal meal and protein raw material are not being utilized rationally.

A significant quantity of animal protein is not being used rationally because of the unsatisfactorily developed material-technical base of enterprises for the production of high-protein feed. Only 40 percent of the skim milk and about 20 percent of the whey is used for industrial processing. Less than one-third of dead animals are processed into meat and bone meal. Inadequate use is also made of other by-products of the industrial processing of agricultural raw materials. The research institutes of the republic's agro-industrial complex are not yet paying the proper attention to increasing the efficiency of feed production and to the introduction of intensive and other progressive technologies for the production of fodder.

There are serious shortcomings in the style of the work of many party raykoms under the leadership of RAPO's. No provision is being made for a comprehensive strengthening of party political work, above all at lagging farms and feed procurement links. There is a lack of initiative, energy and efficiency in resolving rural social questions, in developing the collective and family contracts, and in improving cost accounting relations in all production links. The work being done with leading personnel of the agro-industrial complex to increase responsibility, activity and the creative approach to the resolution of the tasks that they face does not meet the demands of the January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

The Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum decrees:

1. Adopt for unswerving guidance and performance the decree of the CPSU Central Committee "On Significant Shortcomings in the Work of the Party, Soviet and Economic Authorities of the Lithuanian SSR, Odessa and Samarkand Oblasts in Increasing the Production and Raising the Quality of Feed." Make the demands of the CPSU Central Committee the basis of the work of all party, soviet and economic authorities in overcoming the lag in feed production. As early as this year, bring about a fundamental turnaround in the procurement and utilization of feed, put the republic at higher levels in the production of the output of plant growing and animal husbandry, and improve all economic indicators.

2. Obligate the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau, the Lithuanian SSR Council of Ministers, Gosagroprom, the ministries and departments of the republic's agro-industrial complex [APK], Alitus and Kapsukas gorkoms, the party raykoms, the rayispolkoms, RAPO's, party, trade-

union and Komsomol organizations, and managers of sovkhoses, kolkhoses and state farms to be more resolute in restructuring the forms and methods of the management of the APK and provide for a high yield from the production potential established in the rural areas. Take the necessary measures to increase the intensification of feed production and to transform it into a commodity and economically valid sector.

The Alitus and Kapsukas gorkoms and the party raykoms must see to it that the decree of the CPSU Central Committee on the question of increasing production and improving the quality of feed and the decree of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee referred to are discussed self-critically and in a businesslike manner at open meetings of the party organizations of farms and other enterprises of the APK by 5 June of this year.

In the discussion, comprehend thoroughly and in depth the situation in feed production on each farm and take urgent measures to eliminate the significant deficiencies. The party raykoms must summarize the results of the discussion in primary party organizations and take daily control of the fulfillment of measures aimed at increasing the production of feed, the improvement of its quality, and the observance of the technology for the growing, procurement, storage and preparation of fodder for feeding. Resolutely change the criteria for the evaluation of the work of managers and specialists of farms and RAPO's in strengthening the feed base. The provision with the necessary feed and especially its quality must be the main indicator for the evaluation of the work of any manager or specialist and determine his moral and economic incentives. At the same time, one should proceed from the fact that animal husbandry needs not merely tons of hay, haylage, silage and concentrates but tons of high-energy feed, dry matter and digestible protein. Take special control over farms lagging behind in feed production. Critically reexamine the "Feed" programs and make the necessary corrections in them and endeavor to have 20-21 quintals of feed units of high-quality fodder procured per standard head of livestock.

3. Gosagroprom, the Alitus and Kapsukas gorkoms, the party raykoms, rayispolkoms, RAPO's, party organizations, and farm managers and specialists must put an end to the stagnation in grain farming. Through strict observance of all agrotechnical methods in each field and the correct introduction of intensive technologies, increase the yield of grain crops to 30-35 quintals per hectare by 1990 and raise the gross harvest of grain to a minimum of 4 million tons and the feed resources to 11 million tons of feed units. Implement a complex of measures to resolve the problem of protein in feed. See to it that each feed unit contains no less than 110 grams of digestible protein. Increase the gross harvest of legumes to 400,000-450,000 tons by the end of the decade. Take measures so that leguminous grasses will constitute 90 percent of the structure of all perennial grasses as early as next year. The agricultural industry and the research institutes of the agrarian sector need to introduce scientifically well-founded methods for the growing of rape, its processing and preparation for feeding. Regulate the growing of clover seed with regard to the complete satisfaction of the needs of farms and reclamation specialists. Increase the annual gross harvest of the seed of red clover to 4,200 tons, that of pink clover to 100 tons and that of white clover to 250 tons.

Ensure in 1987 the assimilation of a new practice for the operational determination of the quality of feed and increase the relative share of coarse and succulent first-class fodder to 75 percent by the end of the five-year plan.

The republic's Gosagroprom must improve the provision of the feed production sectors with technological mechanisms and that of fodder harvesting equipment with spare parts. Everywhere make extensive use of progressive technologies for the procurement of feed. See to it that the first cut of grasses is completed within 20 days, resulting in the saving of the maximum quantity of nutrients. During the period of feed procurement, make extensive use of the help of the sponsoring enterprises and organizations of the cities. Prepare all hay for public animal husbandry using the method of active ventilation. Lay up more silage with the application of preservatives. To increase the content of dry matter in corn silage, Gosagroprom must achieve an increase in the amount of seed of early-maturing varieties of corn brought into the republic and, on the basis of cultivation under grain technology, lay up silage in the milk-wax stage of its maturity. Completely resolve the problem of the provision of farms with feed barns within 2 to 3 years. Expand the construction of hay barns equipped with solar collectors.

In feed procurement, everywhere establish permanently operating groups or links with payment according to final results. More boldly assimilate cost accounting relations between the subdivisions of feed production and animal husbandry as specialized on-farm sectors of commodity production. It is essential to make more extensive use of the family contract in the cultivation of root crops. Provide for the training of machine operating personnel in intensive methods of work under the conditions of the complete cost accounting in plant growing and in feed production in particular. More generally practice the transition of kolkhozes, sovkhoses and their subdivisions to the remuneration of labor from gross income.

4. Gosagroprom and the republic's Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources must undertake urgent measures for the intensification of the utilization of reclaimed and irrigated lands. Obtain no fewer than 45 and, by the end of the five-year plan, 50 quintals of hay from each hectare of cultivated hayfields and increase the yield of irrigated pastures to 10,000-12,000 feed units per hectare. Completely eliminate the defects on poorly irrigated lands within 2 years. Concentrate attention on a fundamental improvement of the utilization of fodder lands. Guarantee in the current five-year plan the renewal of previously converted cultivated meadows and pastures in an area of 260,000 to 270,000 hectares, or 30,000-40,000 hectares more than was specified in the "Feed" program. Strive to have kolkhozes and sovkhoses make efficient use of reclaimed land, look after the repair of drainage systems and the improvement of operations, and guarantee the conservation of the lands in a good meliorative state. Annually increase the amount of mole plowing and deep loosening of the soil. Increase their area to 175,000 to 200,000 hectares annually.

Concentrate the efforts of APK research institutes on the resolution of the major problem questions in the development of the feed production sector.

5. Gosagroprom, the ministries and departments of the republic's APK, Alitus and Kapsukas gorkoms, the Lithuanian Communist Party raykoms, rayispolkoms, RAPO's, party and trade-union organizations, and farm managers must immediately identify the reasons for the backwardness and slowing of the pace of the development of animal husbandry in a number of rayons and farms, bring in all reserves and possibilities for a dynamic increase in the production of livestock output, and resolutely combat deficiencies and mismanagement in this sector.

Substantially improve the work to raise the intensiveness of animal husbandry by increasing milk yields, daily weight gains of livestock, its weight conditions and other qualitative indicators. In the current year, increase the milk yield per cow by no less than 100 kg, raising it to 3,670 kg. Increase the weight gain of cattle being fattened to 650 grams and that of swine to 470 grams.

Concentrate the efforts of all of the republic's APK specialists on the utilization of the pasturing period for a significant increase in livestock productivity and for an increase in the production and procurement of livestock output.

Fundamentally improve selecting and breeding work in animal husbandry, the reproduction of the herds, especially dairy livestock, the raising of young pedigreed livestock, and the state of the animals.

Achieve a significant decline in feed expenditures in animal husbandry through intensive factors and the reduction of the relative share of concentrated feeds in livestock rations. Reduce feed outlays by the end of the five-year plan by an average of 5 percent in the republic for the production of a unit of milk and pork and by 10 percent for the production of beef.

More fully utilize the potential possibilities for the development of swine breeding. Introduce the industrial interbreeding of swine and increase the production of pork in the overall quantity of meat to 42 percent. Improve the work for the maximum utilization of the production capacities of swine-breeding complexes.

Purposefully carry out work to strengthen the material-technical base of animal husbandry. Intensify the work in the reconstruction and modernization of enclosures for animal husbandry. Increase the level of all-round mechanization in cattle sections to 80 percent by the end of the five-year plan and to 90 percent in swine-breeding sections.

Take effective measures to reduce labor, material and monetary expenditures and, as a result, significantly increase the economic efficiency of the production of livestock output and the profitability of animal-husbandry sections on all farms of the republic.

Henceforth, for the purpose of increasing the production of livestock products and their sale to the state, utilize the possibilities of the population's private plots and provide them with feed and young swine and poultry. More extensively introduce the family contract in the raising and fattening of livestock.

6. Gosplan, Gosagroprom, the Ministry of Grain Products of the Lithuanian SSR, Alitus and Kapsukas gorkoms, the party raykoms, rayispolkoms, and party and economic managers must, on the basis of the extensive introduction of low-waste and no-waste technologies and the increase in capacities for processing meat and milk, for the production of mixed feeds and for the development of elevator operations, achieve a substantial improvement in the utilization of the available protein and other raw material. Increase in the current five-year plan the production of mixed feeds by no less than 10 percent, that of dry dairy products by a factor of 1.8, meat and bone meal by a factor of 1.3, and fish meal by a factor of 1.2.

7. Central Committee sections, gorkoms and raykoms of the Lithuanian Communist Party must raise the efficiency of their own work and be bolder and more persistent in restructuring the work in the light of the aims of the 27th CPSU Congress and January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Do more to develop openness [glasnost] and democratic principles in the work with people as well as criticism and self-criticism. Delve more deeply into the work of primary party organizations and take measures so that each communist can be an active participant in the restructuring [perestroyka]. The tasks in the restructuring and acceleration of social and economic development require an increase in the responsibility of all personnel, the active introduction of new approaches and new economic thinking, and the concentration of practical efforts on the resolution of the main tasks determining final results. Work to resolve the problem of feed production in harmony with a complex of measures to raise the intensification of animal husbandry and to improve the entire management mechanism.

8. The editor's offices of the republic's newspapers, television and broadcasting must continuously and extensively illuminate the work of rural labor collectives in increasing the production of feed and improving its quality as well as in the intensification of animal husbandry. Continuously publish materials on the dissemination of the initiative of the farmers of Ionishkskiy Rayon as approved by the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee for increasing the production of feed and improving its quality.

The party gorkoms and raykoms and RAPO's must react without delay to the critical comments of the mass media and support the organs of the press, television and broadcasting.

The Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum expresses its firm assurance that party and soviet authorities as well as all communists and working people of the republic's APK, working actively and creatively, will do everything necessary for the further strengthening of the feed base and for the improvement of the quality of feed and, on this basis, will guarantee the intensive development of animal husbandry, will make their contribution to the fulfillment of the country's Food Program, and will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Great October in a worthy manner.

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ORGANIZING CATEGORIES FOR PAID SERVICES EXPLAINED

Moscow PLANOVOYE KHOZYAYSTVO in Russian No 6, Jun 87 pp 113-116

[Article by A. Masalskiy, candidate of economic sciences; Ye. Zotova, candidate of economic sciences; and A. Spiring: "Planning Paid Services to the Population"]

[Text] A steady rise in the people's material and cultural standard of living is the loftiest goal of party policy. As a result of our country's dynamic economic growth, there has been a constant increase in the quantity of material goods and diverse services offered to the population; their quality has also improved. Moreover, the service sphere has begun to play an ever-increasing role in satisfying the population's demands. Services facilitate the maintenance of the consumer qualities of goods at the necessary level (by means of repairing, washing, and cleaning them), supplying goods to the consumer in the form most convenient for him (packaging, home delivery, assembly), and conditioning the means of habitation (housing and municipal services). Furthermore, in the sphere of education, culture, health care, physical education and sports they determine the spiritual and physical features of human beings themselves; they form and develop the personality as well as constituting the basis of its multifaceted improvement.

In planning the development of paid services, we are confronted with the tasks of expanding their assortment, improving their quality and service standards, organizing the presentation of new types of such services, overcoming the differences in providing them with regard to different parts of the country (making sure that the development of services proceeds at an outstripping pace in the rural localities), improving the deployment of a network of enterprises and organizations offering everyday services (bringing them closer to places of employment, study, and residence), improving their operational schedules, ensuring the accessibility of all types of services for consumers at various income levels, above all, for war and labor invalids, as well as for families with many children.

Also required is further strengthening of the material and technical base of the sectors of the service sphere, founded on the introduction of achievements made by scientific and technical progress, furnishing enterprises with highly productive equipment, vehicles, and machinery, the efficient utilization of existing and newly introduced capacities, as well as broadly involving

enterprises and organizations in rendering services to the population, regardless of their departmental jurisdiction.

In order to satisfy the population's needs as fully as possible, we must determine the optimal combination of the development of free services as well as expanding the production of consumer goods.

Evaluation of the effectiveness of correlating the development of paid and free services for the population, in our opinion, should be carried out by taking into account its correspondence to the principle of distribution according to work performed. Otherwise, free distribution could reduce the stimulating role of distribution according to work performed and, to a certain extent, retard the country's economic and social development.

The optimal nature of continuing the development of production of consumer goods and services for the population must be determined by specific groups of these items and the corresponding services, such as, for example, "goods--services to maintain the normal functioning of these goods," "goods--services--substitutes for these goods," "goods--services ensuring the consumption of these goods," etc.

Prior to 1986 the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR used to work out primarily indicators showing the development of individual sectors (types) of services. Thus, indicators were approved which characterized the development of a network of enterprises and organizations rendering services to the population, putting into operation laundries, garages providing technical services for passenger cars, bathhouses, capacities for communal construction facilities, subway lines, preschool institutions, clubs, and houses of culture, a total space of apartment houses being put into operation, etc. Several physical indicators were approved which characterize the number of persons served--the passenger turnover of railroad transport, civil aviation, and general-purpose motor-vehicle transport, as well as the number of children and children's preschool institutions maintained on the state budget, etc. Moreover, an indicator which could be used to evaluate the results of the service sphere's functioning--the volume of services sold (rendered)--was established for only two sectors: everyday services and motion pictures. To be sure, the volume of their contribution by the population was calculated; it was one of the indicators of the balance between the population's monetary income and outflow. However, the indicators of the volume of services sold (rendered) and services consumed are different, despite the fact that the production and consumption of services takes place at the same time. The former indicator, designed to evaluate the volume of services rendered, is measured by the total money which has actually been received by the enterprise providing the service. The volume of services consumed characterizes the population's expenditures to obtain them and is measured by the total money which the population has paid out of its own income for the services rendered to the population indirectly (washing linen, and dry cleaning for hotels, children's institutions, hospitals, etc.). At the same time, their payment is included in the volume of services sold.

It is precisely for this reason that at the present time the indicator of the total volume of paid services sold, evaluating the results of all activities conducted by the enterprises, sectors, and the entire service sector as a whole, has been included among the indicators to be approved in the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR. It is fundamental to the system of comprehensive planning the service sphere in the national economic plans, and it should facilitate its well-planned development for the fullest possible satisfaction of the population's needs.

At the present time Methodological Directives have been worked out and approved with regard to drawing up this indicator, directives which define the goals and tasks of its utilization, as well as the specifics of calculating it by sectors. In addition to the total volume of paid services sold to the population, within the bounds of the overall limits on state capital investments, as provided directly to the ministries, departments, and councils of ministers of the union republics, for the first time state capital investments, as well as construction and installation operations, have been specified for the development of systems of paid services to the population. Resource indicators are being worked out.

The total volume of paid services sold to the population includes the following: everyday services, passenger transport, communications, housing and municipal maintaining children in children's preschool institutions, culture, tourist and excursion, physical education and sports, sanatorium and health resorts, health care, legal-type services and savings-bank accounts, along with other services.

In drawing up this list, use was made as a base of the classification adopted in calculating the balance between the population's monetary income and outlays. Certain changes have been introduced into it. In particular, for the purpose of eliminating duplication with the division entitled "everyday services," the designations and composition of the services rendered by passenger transport were made more precise. The types of activity carried out by the communications field were brought into line with the plan and accounting documents. Operations being carried out by technical-inventory buros and miscellaneous municipal services were excluded from housing and municipal services. The areas indicated above were transferred partially to the division entitled "other services." Furthermore, the indicators regarding the growth in the volume of paid services sold to the population will not have occasion to target the assignments with regard to the supply of electric power, water supply, sewerage, gas supply, and sanitary trash disposal, inasmuch as this would contradict the task of economizing on energy, fuel, and other resources. There has been a change in the composition and name of the section entitled "services for maintaining children in children's preschool institutions." In connection with the transition to the basically free maintenance of children in boarding-schools, the category of "boarding-school services" has been excluded. Instruction in paid courses by way of preparation for VUZ's and tekhnikums has been included in the division entitled "other services," which will allow us, in preparing the plan, to ensure the comparability among the volumes of work performed in the given division for absolutely all the USSR ministries and departments which carry them out. The division relating to culture has been made more specific and

regrouped in accordance with the existing forms of accountability. It has been constructed not in a cross-section of the institutions whose basic type of activity is rendering services but by types of the latter. Also changed were the following service divisions: tourist and excursion, physical education and sports, sanatorium and health resort, health care, and legal. Moreover, the composition of the physical-education and sports services has come to include the increasingly widespread activity concerned with offering physical-education and sports facilities for recreational purposes. Not included within the general indicator of the sales volume of paid services of kolkhoses, sovkhoses, and other agricultural enterprises (including hippodromes), inasmuch as they are maintained in other divisions of the list. Services of a legal nature, savings-bank accounts, etc. have been integrated in one division.

In calculating the volume of the paid services sold to the population, the total money actually received by the enterprise (or organization) which has rendered the service can consist of revenues from the population completely (in cash or by means of deductions) or partially, supplementing the revenues by means of funds from trade unions, enterprises, organizations, ministries, and departments. Services partially paid for by the population but for which no supplementary payments come in from other sources (privileged services--for example, allocating housing space to invalids and certain other persons) are included in the sales volume in the amount of the actual totals which have come into the enterprise (or organization).

It is considered that an enterprise has accorded a service to the population (Footnote 1) only in case it has rendered it by its own efforts, i.e., by its own employees. And if employees from other organizations were to be invited (for example, if a concert were to be held by invited performing artists in an area belonging to an enterprise, or a specialized reception center for everyday services were to be organized on the enterprise's territory, etc.), then these services are deemed to be within the sales volume not of the given enterprise but rather of the one which offered its own employees.

The indicator under consideration does not include the cost of raw materials and other materials except for those used in manufacturing footwear, furniture, or in recording ritual and other everyday services.

In planning the total sales volume of paid services to the population, consideration is given to the need for them and the degree of its satisfaction, the solvent demand, the intended scope of development of the network of institutions rendering services, and the possible capital investments. Socioeconomic norms and normatives by types of services are utilized. At the present time the State Expert Commission has worked out and approved a set of normatives on the basis of which calculations will be conducted for the future.

For each sector of the service sphere (and by types and assortments) the indicator is calculated according to the data on the development of these services in physical terms (quantity of services rendered or number of persons served) and the average price of the service (in accordance with price lists, prices, and rates).

The sales volume of paid services to the population is planned and computed in accordance with the Methodological Directives for Working Out the State Plans for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR. As regards other types of services, the methods of planning their sales volume were first worked out when the plan for 1986 was being drawn up.

The sales volume of passenger transport services is defined as the total revenues derived from hauling passengers by railroad, maritime, inland-waterway, air, urban-electric, and motor-vehicle transport (calculated separately for general-purpose and departmental transport), along with the average revenue rates. Furthermore, revenues are also planned from the enterprises of the Ministry of Railways to be obtained by hauling baggage and from the offices providing service to passengers: in the former case--based on the dynamics of baggage hauls during the base period, taking into account the increase in passenger turnover, and, in the latter case--the average office revenues during the base period per billion passenger-kilometers.

With regard to communications services, the sales volume is calculated as the total revenues obtained from the population for sending letters, printed matter, money orders, packages, telegrams, as well as for long-distance telephone calls, and for the installation and for the installation and use of apartment telephones and radio-relay points. Postal and telegraph communications revenues are planned by proceeding from the dynamics of receipts, as calculated on a per capita basis, and the number of the population at the end of the period being planned. Revenues derived from long-distance, urban, and rural telephonic communications as well as the installation of radios are determined by proceeding from the average annual number of basic apartment telephones and radio-relay points, along with the dynamics of the average statutory revenue rate of one apartment telephone and one radio-relay point, as computed on an average annual basis.

Housing and municipal services are planned as the total sales volumes of housing, dormitory, hotel, and bureau services in exchange for living space. The sales volume of housing services (calculated separately for funds of state and public organizations, as well as for houses built by housing-construction cooperatives) is computed as the total apartment rents and the reimbursement of operating expenses by proceeding from the average amounts of housing space being used and the apartment rental rates or the payment of operating expenses per square meter of housing space. The sales volume of dormitory and hotel services is defined as the total payments for living in them, as calculated on the basis of data regarding the capacity of the dormitories (or hotels) and the average payment for a place, services for exchanging housing space-by proceeding from their number.

The sales volume of services with regard to maintaining children in children's preschool institutions is defined as the total contributions made by the population for maintaining children. It is planned on the basis of the number of children and the average amount of payment per child per annum, taking into account the change in the age for beginning instruction in the schools.

The indicator reflecting the sales of cultural services includes the gross collection of funds from motion-picture theaters, as well as the sales volumes of services rendered to the population by professional theaters, concert organizations, circus enterprises, museums and exhibitions, music, art, and dancing schools, parks of culture and rest, club-type institutions, libraries, etc. In connection with this, calculations are made of the number of visitors and the average ticket price of admission to each cultural institution, as well as the number of pupils and the average tuition payment at music, art, and dancing schools, in clubs, courses, universities of culture, and lecture bureaus. If, due to a lack of the necessary data, it is impossible to determine the number of persons availing themselves of the cultural services, then a calculation is made of the number of measures conducted by the cultural and artistic organizations and the average amount collected from one such measure.

Tourist and excursion services are planned as the total revenues derived from the sale of travel passes for tourist routes, tourist and excursion services based on calculating the number of travel passes and the price of one such pass. The cost of a travel pass is computed at its full amount, i.e., without the discounts granted to the population by means of social insurance funds, or the funds of enterprises and organizations. Inasmuch as the councils on tourism utilize the services of other organizations (for example, passenger transport hauls tourists, whereas museums and exhibitions conduct excursions and measures for tourist groups, etc.), the sales volume of tourist and excursion services includes those services rendered by the organizations involved.

The sale of physical-education and sports services (conducting physical-education and sports classes, spectator-type sports events, making the facilities of physical education and sports available for rest and recreation) is planned as the total collections from the sale of tickets (subscriptions or travel passes), and is computed on the basis of the number of visitors (or groups) and the average cost of tickets (subscriptions or travel passes).

The volume of sanatorium and health-resort services is determined by the total receipts obtained from the sale of travel passes to sanatoriums, health resorts, rest homes and centers, boarding houses, and Pioneer camps, as well as for out-patient treatment at health resorts, by proceeding from the number of travel passes and their average costs. The latter is computed at its full amount, i.e., without the discounts granted to the population by means of various funds.

In planning paid health-care services, a calculation is made of the total payments by the population for various types of material aid rendered by cost-accounting health-care institutions, based on the average cost of the services and their volume, as determined in the indicators adopted for the given type of institutions (number of visits by physicians, number of persons provided with dental prosthesis), those who have received physical therapy and cosmetological aid).

The sales volume of legal-type and savings-bank account services is established by the total of the state fees levied for executing notarial acts,

receipts from the population for juridical help rendered by lawyers, commissions paid by the population to savings banks for operations pertaining to the transfer of deposits, the payment of checks drawn on the USSR State Labor Savings Bank, and letters of credit, using such banks for storing valuable papers, and for the use of individual safes. This indicator is calculated by proceeding from the number of requests made by citizens for the respective service and the average rate.

And, finally, the sales volume of other services to the population (those not included within the previously listed divisions) is planned separately for each type, taking into account the quantity of services rendered and the average rate.

And, finally, the sales volume of other services to the population (those not included within the previously listed divisions) is planned separately for each type, taking into account the quantity of services rendered and their average cost.

An aspect which is new in principle in planning the total sales volume of paid services is its regional cross-section. In connection with this, the Union-republic councils of ministers have been assigned the task of approving the sales volume of services to the population for all enterprises and organizations situated on the republic's territory, except for the services of certain ministries for which the plan approves services on a specific basis.

In order to stimulate the activity and increase the responsibility of enterprises and organizations rendering services to the population, assignments with regard to their total sales volume are also established for the ministries and departments of the USSR. What is new in principle is the fact that tasks are specified for the entire paid-service sector, including ministries and departments of the USSR and the union republics whose basic activity is the rendering of services.

At the present time the USSR Central Statistical Administration has worked out an accounting form regarding the sale of paid services to the population, and it is being introduced both annually and quarterly. It presents indicators for the total sales volume of paid services to the population (with a breakdown of types), including those paid for by the population. Use of this data in planning will allow us to link more closely together the population's monetary income and outlays, on the one hand, and the prospects for developing the paid-services sphere, on the other hand. This, in turn, will facilitate implementation of the Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Service Sphere.

FOOTNOTES

1. These include services rendered not only to individual citizens but also to the so-called equated organizations, whose principal activity consists of rendering services to the population (hospitals, hotels, etc.).

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OIL INDUSTRY RESULTS FOR FIRST QUARTER 1987

Moscow NEFTYANIK in Russian No 5, 1987

[Unsigned article: "Results of Ministry of Petroleum Industry Operations in the First Quarter 1987"]

[Text] Since the beginning of this year the majority of oil industry enterprises have begun to work under new conditions of economic management. The principle goal of this important economic measure is to strengthen the effect of the economic mechanism on accelerating scientific and technical progress, create genuine incentive for labor collectives of enterprises and associations for increasing the quality of labor and products, and more actively use the potential of planning, pricing, and other economic levers and stimulants. The results of this trend are already having a positive effect on oil industry activity.

Overall, the plan for the extraction of oil and gas condensate for the first quarter of 1987 was fulfilled by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry by 100.5 percent. The amount extracted above the plan was 758,800 tons of oil with gas condensate. Out of 36 production associations, 32 fulfilled the plan targets.

The greatest successes in fulfilling the plan for extraction of "black gold" was achieved by the collectives of the Nizhnevartovskneftegaz association (456,000 tons above the plan), Surgutneftegaz (166,000 tons), Tatneft (123,000 tons), Komi-neft (100,000 tons).

Not managing to fulfill the plan were the collectives of the Varyeganneftegaz, Azneft, Mangyshlakneft, and Soyuztermneft associations. They came in 595,500 tons of oil and gas condensate under plan. The greatest shortfall was suffered by the collective of the Varyeganneftegas association.

The plan for extraction of gas (natural and associated) was fulfilled by all of the Ministry's associations, except Bashneft (in Tyumen Oblast). The nation received 653.4 million cubic meters of gas above the plan.

The drillers did not do their best work in the first quarter. The plan for well footage was not fulfilled for either developmental or exploratory drilling. The reason for this was not only the severe winter but also the weak management in a number of drilling organizations of the Glavtyumenneftegaz association.

The results of operations in this year's first quarter have been carefully analyzed at the Ministry of Petroleum Industry, in all the Ministry's enterprises and organizations. Oil workers are full of desire to exploit their success, and where a shortfall was allowed, to quickly make it up.

Today coming more and more to the forefront are questions on the transition to a higher stage of improvement of the economic mechanism, to the principles of full cost accounting [khozraschet], self-financing and self-support [samookupayemost]. And now more than ever it is important to gather and correlate the results of operations of the Ministry's enterprises in the new conditions of economic management, to expose all the bottlenecks and unresolved questions, and to take active measures to eliminate deficiencies.

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STANDARD TO CONTROL WATER POLLUTION IN OIL INDUSTRY

Moscow NEFTYANIK in Russian No 5, 1987 p 12

[Article by A. Andrianova, BashNIPIneft, and L. Bliskovskaya, V. Volkovinskiy, N. Mikhaylov, VNIIS: "Standard to Protect Water from Contamination"]

[Text] In the 11th Five-Year Plan specialists from the Ministry of Petroleum Industry (Minneftprom), the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources (Minvodkhoz), the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Health (Minzdrav), the RSFSR Ministry of Health, and the State Committee for Standards (Gosstandart) did much work on developing a draft for state standard 17.1.2.12-86 "Environmental protection. Hydrosphere. General regulations for protecting water from contamination during drilling and extraction of oil and gas on land." The urgency and necessity of this work were determined entirely by our country's increasing volume of exploration, development, and extraction of oil and gas. Because of this, in recent decades oil as well as oil products and chemical agents used in drilling wells have become the most widespread source of environmental contamination, primarily in bodies of water.

Nevertheless, up to now there has not been a single interdepartmental standardized technical document which would link the requirements of the oil and gas land drilling and production processes with the requirements of protecting the hydrosphere.

The development of State Standard 17.1.3.02-77 "Environmental protection. Hydrosphere. Regulations for the protection of water from contamination during drilling and completion of offshore oil and gas wells" has allowed the Ministry of Gas Industry (Mingazprom) to organize its enterprises' environmental work in offshore oil and gas drilling. Its existence has demanded the creation of an analogous standard which takes into account the specifics of design, construction, and operation of oil and gas drilling on land. In international practice such standards do not exist.

The draft of Standard 17.1.3.12-86 was circulated for comment to all interested organizations, including organizations of USSR Minvodkhoz, USSR Minzdrav, USSR Ministry of Fish Industry (Minrybkhaz), Mingazprom, Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises, and others, where it was widely discussed.

In March 1986 Gosstandart approved the Standard. Until its effective date - July 1, 1987 - the workers of design, drilling, and oil and gas production enterprises studied the requirements of the Standard. The Standard's requirements were to be included in all related newly developed and reviewed ministry normative and technical documents.

The Standard's duration is indefinite. The first quarter of 1989 has been set as the deadline for verifying the scientific and technical level of the Standard. The Standard has been assigned to the principal developer -- BashNIPIneft of Minneftprom. Departmental verification of adherence to the Standard should be done by the ministries and departments using the Standard (Minnefteprom, Mingazprom, USSR Ministry of Geology), as well as ministries and departments implementing state verification of the condition of water resources (State Committee on Hydrology and Meteorology, USSR Minvodkhoz, USSR Minrybkhoz, USSR Minzdrav, and USSR Ministry of Geology). The republic administrations of Gosstandart have been charged with state inspection.

The goal of the State Standard is to establish a system of measures for protecting surface and ground water from contamination during planning, exploratory and developmental drilling, completion and production of oil and gas fields on land. One of the most important problems solved by the Standard is protection of the environment and prevention of contamination to standing, flowing, and underground water from oil, petroleum products, drilling fluids, chemical agents, process and waste water and surface runoff from the vicinity of the well, drilling muds and cuttings. The Standard gives the principle requirements as to measures and means of safeguarding surface and ground water from contamination by oil, petroleum products, drilling mud, drilling fluids, waste water containing various chemical compounds from the disposal of industrial and domestic waste water from the washing of production equipment, containers, and the discharge from the drill rig production platform.

The Standard specifies that all designated waste water after appropriate cleaning and processing should be reused to maintain formation pressure in oil fields or should be channeled into a recycling system. Therefore plans for exploration, development, construction, and operation of oil and gas fields, as well as the plans for well construction should include the section "Environmental Protection", taking into account the recycling and purification of waste water, using and eliminating processing wastes, and so on.

If it is impossible to recycle waste water, its discharge into bodies of water is allowed only after preliminary cleaning in treating facilities in compliance with the specifications approved by USSR Minzdrav, USSR Minvodkhoz, and USSR Minrybkhoz. Chemical agents for preparing drilling fluids can be used only after the approval of USSR Minzdrav.

Exploratory work using explosive methods on water bodies used as fisheries and in protected riparian zones is allowed only with the approval of USSR Minrybkhoz and other departments in the established order.

The Standard stipulates a procedure for providing water for use during drilling and completion of oil and gas wells, requirements for water supplies, for construction of special areas for placement and storage of fuels and

lubricants, chemicals, bulk materials, mud, drilling fluids, machinery, ponds for cuttings, etc., as well as general rules for the protection of water during the collection and recovery (disposal) of mud, cuttings, and waste water.

Rules have been made for the protection of water during the cleanup of blowouts and uncontrolled wells and for the control of surface and ground water quality during drilling and production of oil and gas on land.

Rules contained in the Standard concretely define "Principles of Water Legislation of the USSR and Union Republics", "Principles of Legislation of the USSR and Union Republics on Public Health", as well as other acts standardizing environmental protection and efficient use of natural resources.

The introduction of the Standard will have both a social and an economic effect.

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PROBLEMS OF URENGOY GAS DEPOSIT SETTLEMENT VIEWED

OW251440 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1015 GMT on 22 June broadcasts a film entitled "July Snow in Urengoy," produced by the Sverdlovsk Cinema Studio.

The film begins with shots of people walking over snow-swept streets, buffeted by heavy winds. The narrator says: "We made our film in summer. Here snow falls even in July. This is Novyy Urengoy, a city built on the (Iravigaga) gas deposit." As video shows young people sheltering under umbrellas, the narrator introduces Ivan Spiridonovich Nikonenko, general director of the Urengoygazodobycha Production Association, who notes that most of the development work is done by the young. Video shows Nikonenko sitting in his office, and then cuts to show natural gas installations in a barren field.

After showing a couple departing from the local marriage palace, video shows a shanty town of ramshackle buildings, stray dogs, and children playing in mud. The narrator says: "You can not drive through here in a Chayka. Even in boots one has difficulty here." The narrator says that "15,000 people, one-fifth of the city's population, live here."

Video shows temporary dwellings shaped like large drums lying on their side with a single door occupying much of one end and one window cut into each side. The prefabricated structures are shown being placed on tall metal frames, as the announcer says that the dwellings are known as "barrels" and notes that many of the city's people still live in them. As video shows 9-story apartment buildings, the narrator notes that these were designed by Leningrad architects and says that "70 percent of the apartments in the city consist of three rooms. However, behind the concrete walls of these buildings we have the same slum conditions [nakhalovka]."

Video shows a cramped apartment, with people milling about in a kitchen, as the narrator continues: "Three families live here, and this small 5-meter kitchen has three equal housewives." One of the housewives notes that the lack of living space prohibits the growth of her family. She notes that all the amenities must be used in turn; the children play on the landings, irritating neighbors; and says that the privacy of one of the "barrels" appears attractive in these circumstances. As video shows children playing around a derelict building the narrator laments the children's lot. A woman militia captain then recounts cases of juvenile delinquency in the city, indicating that sometimes juveniles are picked up drunk.

The narrator points out that the city has only one youth center and video shows a building with crumbling stucco and a sign over the door noting the center is closed for repair. Cutting to a shot of a movie theater, the narrator says it is as difficult to get to see a movie as to attend the Malyy theater in Moscow. Video shows a line of people waiting to get into the "Druzhba" cafe. Nikonenko shown seated in his office, explains that many problems are associated with the city's relative youth. He notes that emphasis has been on development of the gas deposit, and that the current 5-year plan envisages numerous cultural and service facilities. As video pans a view of the city, showing vehicles on poorly-defined streets waiting for a train to pass, the narrator notes Nikonenko's desire to fulfill gas development plans while disregarding the city's needs.

The camera zooms to show tall burn-off pipes in the distance, with huge flames at their peaks. Video then pans industrial construction sites at the deposit while the narrator notes that at some sites the ground has been prepared, while at others even survey work has not been carried out. He notes that the incomplete sites are responsible for supplying one-third of the gas output, and says: "What is going on? After all, the deposit has been brought up to design capacity, yet it turns out that here at the operating sites there is a need to mercilessly tear at the gas layers in order to conform to plan figures. One wonders if the lamentable experience of neighboring oil industry workers has penetrated here?"

A veteran of the Samotlor deposit then recounts problems in developing that gas deposit. He notes that, in an effort to achieve plan targets, central wells were exploited to the detriment of peripheral ones, where gas and liquid pressures fell. The narrator comments that "the cream was removed while the milk was left: they were fulfilling an order. Now similar orders are being fulfilled in Urengoy."

Video shows flaming burn-off towers as the narrator wonders whether there is enough strength to stop and oppose the mindless plunder. As the camera pans huge industrial plants built to process natural gas, Nikonenko notes that 1 metric ton of gas condensate is worth 2 metric tons of crude oil. He notes that 20 percent of (Volonzhinskoye) deposit gas is composed of gases that remain after the production of diesel fuel, including ethane and butane. These, he says, are burned in metallurgical plants, and elsewhere. The narrator notes the latter includes the burn-off towers. He says: "Due to improper planning, 30 percent of the gas from the (Volonzhinskoye) deposit is lost into the air right here on site. Yet 1 metric tons of ethane is capable of replacing 10 metric tons of petroleum."

In response to a question, Nikonenko notes that this year more than 1 million metric tons of ethane will be produced. He adds that, in his opinion, other branches should have been prepared to receive all components of the gas extracted from (Volonzhinskoye) when development of the deposit was being planned. The narrator says: "Ethane is hard to get but easy to burn. The labor and spirit of people burn in these flames, and no rubles, short or long, can pay off the future. No Chayka can help one escape or drive away."

In conclusion video shows a delapidated school that the narrator says was built ahead of schedule but condemned and never used due to shoddy construction. The narrator notes that Nikonenko has been reassigned to Yamburg, and wonders what kind of instructions he will have to give and abide by there.

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MODERNIZING PIPELINES, PUMPING STATIONS

Moscow NEFTYANOYE KHOZYAYSTVO in Russian No 5, May 87 pp 42-46

[Article by V.F. Kupriyanov, Giprotрубopровод, under the "Oil Transport and Storage" rubric: "Re-Equipment and Modernization for Oil Pipelines and Pumping Stations"]

[Text] The unified oil-transport system expanded systematically and intensively, especially during the 9th, 10th and the first half of the 11th Five-Year Plans [1], at a pace which corresponded to the increase in oil production and refining (Fig 1). This was a very important stage, which basically completed the construction of large-diameter, long main oil and oil-product pipelines in the USSR. In connection with this, during the 12th Five-Year Plan and until the year 2000, the urgent tasks for pipeline organizations are to accelerate the establishment of a more extensively branched oil-transport network by laying additional small- and medium-diameter main oil pipelines. These lines are designed either: 1) to connect new oil fields directly to existing oil-consuming and -refining enterprises, or 2) to connect new fields to central collection points and, if the oil is paraffin-base or viscous, to prepare the oil, by heating or with solvents, before it is pumped through existing pipelines.

More intensive efforts will be made to solve problems of conducting, at a modern technico-economic level, the first stage of modernization and re-equipment of older GNS's [gas filling stations] and NPS's [oil pumping stations] which have reached the end of their depreciation period or which are approaching the critical period. GNS's and NPS's which have poor reliability indicators and which require constant servicing will be modernized. Considerable monetary and material resources will be needed, along with a large number of automation and telemechanization systems, as well as storage tanks with floating roofs and unsinkable pontoons. In addition, the following are needed: 1) new integrated installations for automatic monitoring and fire-extinguishment using highly efficient, reliable, stationary foam generators; 2) improved pump-power units, with optimum cooling and lubrication systems, which can be placed in the open air, in sheds or in lightweight shelters, and 3) a large amount of cable products and other scarce materials. Also needed are the mechanisms and tools which enterprises need to perform all types of in-house construction and installation work, without calling in outside contractors and without shutting off the oil flow, or to organize centralized work by calling in specialized construction-installation organizations.

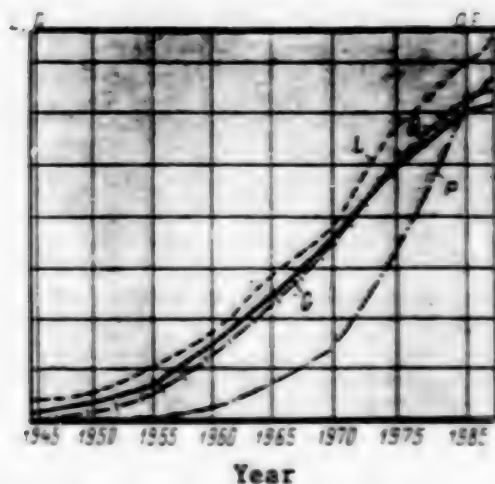


Figure 1. Annual Changes in the Performance Indicators of the Unified Oil-Transport System:

L. length of oil pipelines

G. output of oil and gas condensate

Q and R. volume pumped and freight turnover, respectively, of oil products and oil

Previously planned work has already begun (although in limited scope), mainly at junction stations, to, among other things: 1) convert these stations to an automated dispatcher-control system, and 2) provide centralized oil metering by means of imported flow-rate converters, instead of the laborious previous method of measuring each tank. The imported converters are calibrated on-site using high-precision TPU's [not further identified]. Several UMN's [main pipeline administrations] independently are performing a large volume of other, no less important, work at many existing NPS's. This work involves: 1) standardizing the process circuits and equipment for main and auxiliary systems, 2) replacing ordinary box pontoons with unsinkable "floating roof" pontoons in storage tanks being repaired by the UMN's, 3) converting some boiler stations from liquid to gaseous fuel, 4) installing centralized oil systems with air oil-coolers etc. From this it follows that although the individual types of limited-volume work done by UMN's are aimed at solving the most urgent problems, they are still only partial measures and cannot ensure the specified level and acceleration of scientific-technical progress in this area.

For example, recent and earlier NPS's, which were frequently individually designed, greatly differ in the number and content of main and auxiliary elements and structures requiring human servicing, as well as in the parameters of process and auxiliary equipment.

The best and most efficient of these are the latest-generation pump stations, models BMGNS, BMGNS-ChS, BMPNS and BMPNS-ChS, which are based on scientific-technical achievements and leading domestic and foreign production experience. These are designed as standardized stations, using the required series equipment and modular integrated-automation and

telemechanization systems. These stations are designed for industrial installation methods, and are made of large-scale construction units, modules and modular-boxes which are entirely factory-manufactured. The BMGNS and BMPNS stations are designed for operation without constant servicing, but rather require relatively small shifts performing security, operational monitoring and inspection-adjustment services. In this regard, UMN's can consider these stations as standards.

However, it is unacceptable to simply transfer and apply the new technical solutions and projects developed and approved for BMGNS's and BMPNS's, or even those for more progressive stations developed for future use or northern service, to existing GNS's and NPS's requiring re-equipment and modernization. In this case, a different creative approach must be developed and implemented, based on a philosophical restructuring. This approach must be tailored to the specific arrangements and conditions of these existing GNS's and NPS's, and to the technico-economic capabilities of each customer to supply, within the specified time periods, equipment and replaceable items for NPS active fixed capital. This approach also must link the solution of intradepartmental problems with state interests. In addition, this approach must be based on leading methods of optimizing existing GNS's and NPS's by implementing: 1) integrated automation and telemechanization systems and microprocessor equipment, 2) more reliable and efficient pump-power units, 3) universal auxiliary systems and devices using water- and energy-conserving technologies and 4) systems complete with means for dynamic computer-diagnosis of major elements. The entire system must operate on a unified and, to the extent possible, closed production cycle, with periodic servicing by visiting repair-adjustment brigades consisting of from five to seven engineers and technicians. These brigades must be equipped with self-propelled railcar workshops or tractor-trailer workshops, with local heating devices, independent electrical equipment and other listed installations and devices to provide the crew with the necessary comforts under any weather or site conditions.

These devices and installations include a normal series of modular main-pipeline electric-pump units consisting of series-produced horizontal staged or volute oil pumps, models NM and BMN [2], which have capacities of 125-750 and 1250-10,000 m³/h, respectively. These pumps must be equipped with either the basic impellers for the rated capacity, Q_r , or with replaceable impellers for capacities of 0.5, 0.7, or 1.25 Q_r , and with 6- and 10-kV series-produced electric-drive motors, models STD (P), 2(4)ARMP1, 2(4)AZMP1 and 2(4)AZMV1, rated from 400 to 8000 kW. These motors are designed for heated enclosures, lightweight shelters or sheds (in zones where the outside air temperature is not below -29° C in winter, or where special protection from sandstorms is not required).

Among the desirable features for new pumps are: 1) improved (zero-clearance) working and idling end seals with impellers and internal hydraulic-load-relief and cooling systems, and 2) metal-based fluoroplastic bearings, which are lubricated in local chambers with special emulsions, and which operate reliably for extended periods at high pressures without adjustment or a noticeable decrease in efficiency. Replacement electric motors should have explosion-proof housings or an open cycle of external-air ventilation and cooling. This would eliminate the need for water circulation and

permit double startup to an open gate valve on the pressure side, with the minimum possible installed shaft power and shaft power consumption [3]. GNS's and NPS's generally should have individual oil systems (TU [specification] 26-06-1386-84), and only in some cases centralized systems. If centralized systems are used, they should be connected to the storage tanks using the so-called "bypass" arrangement, and should be complete with outdoor air oil-coolers and higher-capacity tanks. In addition, oil systems should be equipped individually with oil-storage modules manufactured by the Imeni Dzerzhinskiy Machine-Building Plant in Perm. These modules consist of three RGS-5 devices, STs 1.5 A separators with a capacity of $q = 2.5 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ and 3-kW, model A02-32-4 electric motors (TU 84-336-72). These ensure the necessary conditions for purification and recycling, and they allow repeated use of bearing oils T22 (GOST [All-Union State Standard] 35-74), TP22 (GOST 9972-79) or VNIINP-403 (GOST 16728-71) without requiring frequent oil replacement or filling of reserve tanks, even when the UMN or RNU [regional oil-pipeline administration] has an exchange fund.

Two pressing problems have arisen in connection with the significant differences between the physical and chemical properties of oil from new and old fields, and in connection with the distribution of different grades between specific consuming and refining enterprises: 1) oil-pipeline specialization and 2) providing UMN's with an improved technology for successive pumping of several different oils in the same pipeline while preserving product quality.

In order to solve the problems of 1) renewing the active fixed capital of existing NPS's and 2) ordering components and all types of basic and auxiliary equipment with the required working characteristics and parameters for these NPS's, all prospective changes in the design conditions of the transported oil must be analyzed and evaluated, taking into account the prospects for the expansion of individual UMN's and the overall oil-transport sector. When UMN personnel, without the aid of project designers, select the type and capacity of electric motors and pumps (or replaceable impellers for these pumps to provide different heads and capacities) as replacements or for new NPS's, the alternatives for integrated solution of all problems of routing the annually required quantities of specific oil to specific consumers must be especially carefully analyzed and developed using computers. In addition, the receiving, shipping and other transport operations on each pipeline, individual operating section and NPS must be studied, ensuring minimum delays and energy consumption for oil-pumping and operation.

Thus, when re-equipping or modernizing individual NPS's or entire main oil pipelines, the main tasks of the UMN and the project designer are:

1. to conserve specified volumes of all types energy, material and labor resources;
2. to achieve more quickly the highest technico-economic level of work organization for NPS's and main oil pipelines by converting to a "workerless" pumping technology, using the most reliable components and

equipment, lengthening to at least one year the service and maintenance periods by personnel from the existing AVP's [emergency-restoration trains], bases and enterprises of TsSTOR [Centralized System of Technical Service and Repair], while maintaining low labor intensity and

3. to organize turn-key commissioning of all rebuilt facilities by acceptance commissions of the superior organization.

When beginning to develop alternatives for organizing oil transport under new conditions, the main-pipeline pump units (or only the replaceable impellers for them) should be selected with working parameters close to the design parameters. Also, graph-diagrams (Fig 2) characterizing the basic hydrodynamic parameters, $Q-H$ and $Q-\eta$ (H is the head and η is the efficiency), and the technological capabilities of the NPS-oil pipeline system should be constructed and analyzed. Graph-diagrams also should be developed to show alternatives for the subsequent connection and combined operation of one, two or three selected pumps on a given section of a rebuilt oil pipeline for different product volumes, rheological properties and delivery rates.

Figure 2 shows that the standard [4] replaceable impellers for type NM pumps for capacities of $0.5Q_r$ and $0.7Q_r$, developed for improving the operating efficiency of long oil pipelines as individual NPS's are gradually added, and for ensuring the operation of ordinary oil pipelines from distant fields in inaccessible areas, have efficiencies which are 3-5 percent lower than those of the basic impellers for a capacity of Q_r .

Replaceable additional impellers for a capacity of $1.25Q_r$ were developed for NPS's with pumps connected either in series or series-parallel. These impellers increase the volume of subdesign-viscosity oil which can be pumped. They are also used to ensure a significant increase in the flow of oil with prespecified properties when a new bypass pipeline is laid parallel to a main oil pipeline, and when there are delays in starting up the pipeline's own pump stations. The $Q-\eta$ characteristics of these impellers usually have the same shape as those of the main impellers, but lie below them. The maximum working efficiencies practically coincide, and are equal to about 85 percent.

At intermediate capacities (greater or less than 0.5, 0.7, 1.0 and 1.25 of rated capacity), these pumps have much lower efficiency; therefore, the operation of NPS's at these capacities leads to electricity overconsumption compared with pumping design oil under the optimum operating conditions.

In order to eliminate energy losses during NPS operation under other technological conditions, the pumps must be augmented with additional nonstandard impellers which have maximum efficiency at intermediate capacities.

Special impellers with prespecified working parameters for NM and BMN series pumps have not yet been modeled, since there is no demand for them.

The theory for calculating all replaceable impellers was developed by VNIIAEN [not further identified], while the Sumy Pump Plant has begun

producing these impellers. In connection with this, these special impellers, which have higher quality and technico-economic indicators, can be quickly and easily ordered and obtained.

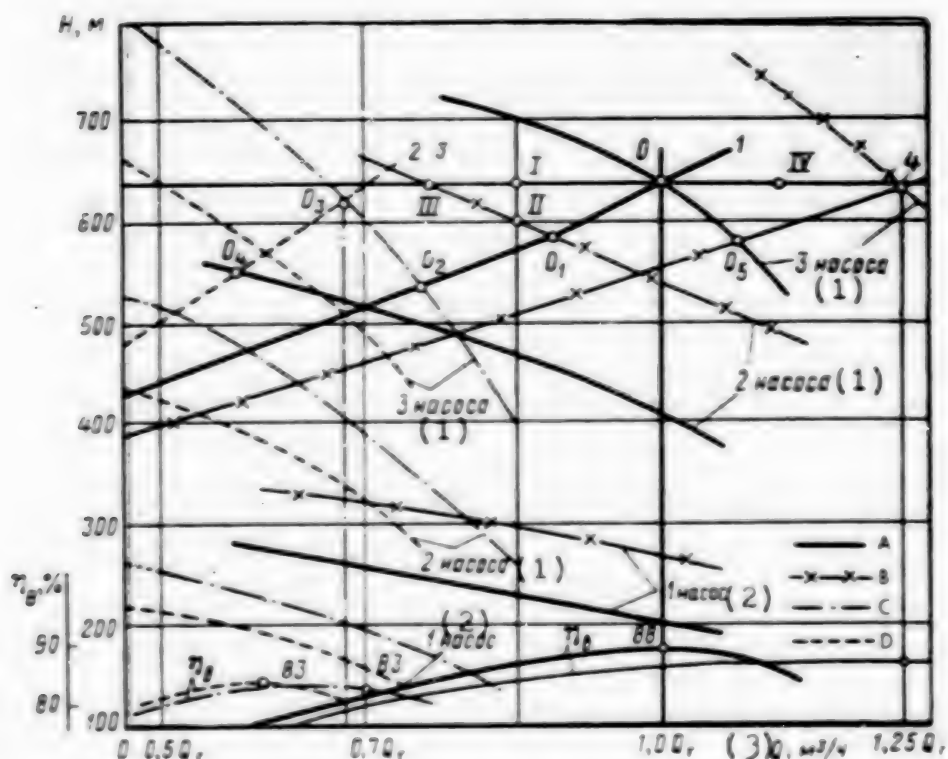


Figure 2. Graph-Diagrams for Determining the Basic Hydrodynamic Parameters of the NPS-Oil Pipeline System:

A, B, C, D. NM pumps with the basic impellers for capacities of Q , $1.25Q$, $0.7Q$, and $0.5Q$, respectively
 O_1 , O_2 , O_3 , O_4 , and O_5 . operating conditions which can be realized by resetting or trimming the existing replaceable impellers, correspondingly, at capacities of $1.25Q$, Q , and $0.7Q$, as well as by combining pump units with the minimum possible electricity losses;
 I, II, III, IV. same, but with increased electricity losses or without these losses, if the pumps are equipped with special replaceable impellers having the required parameters
 1, 2, 3, 4. characteristics of the given oil-pipeline section, respectively: at the optimum combination of system design parameters and when pumping oil with the design rheological parameters and capacity; when operating "through-station"; when pumping higher-viscosity oil and when pumping lower-viscosity oil

Key:

1. pumps 2. pump 3. Q , m^3/h

The implementation and supply by Nasosenergomash Scientific Production Association of the required impellers with prespecified characteristics (in

addition to the existing impellers) through direct agreements with UMN's are a creative contribution by machine builders to improve the efficiency and operation of many energy-intensive facilities in the oil-transport sector.

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INCREASED SUBSIDY FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Moscow TRUD in Russian 16 Jun 87 p 2

[Interview with G. F. Sukhoruchenkova, secretary of the All-Union Central Trade Union Council: "Family Assistance"; first two paragraphs are source introduction]

[Text] Subsidies for families with children have been increased in the last few years. In particular, the practice of partial payment for leave to care for a child until he reaches the age of one year has been introduced. Amounts paid at the time of birth have also been increased. Financial aid to single mothers has been expanded and the effective period extended. Persons handicapped since childhood now receive larger subsidies, and pension benefits have been enlarged for mothers having many children, mothers of children who have been handicapped since early childhood, and for others.

Of great importance in this regard is the decree of the USSR Council of Ministers and the VTsSPS [All-Union Central Trade Union Council]. It is entitled "Additional Assistance for Low-Income Families with Three or More Children Under the Care of a Single Parent." Readers' questions regarding benefits and their applicability as provided for in this decree are answered by VTsSPS Secretary G. F. Sukhoruchenkova.

[Question] What are the specific provisions of the decree?

[Answer] Starting this year, school age children of low-income families in which there are three or more children under 16 years of age who are dependent upon a single parent are to receive cost-free the school, athletic, and pioneer uniforms, in addition to school lunches. In addition, these families are entitled to free vacations in pioneer camps and sanatoria for parents and their children.

The law obligates parents and guardians to raise their children and provide for them until the age of 18. Unfortunately, not all parents are conscientious in carrying out this obligation. If a parent leaves his family, the parent is

bound to contribute to support of his children until they come of age, that is, he must make child support payments. The general rule applicable to amounts paid for child support is as follows: one-fourth of his income in the case of one child; one-third for two; one-half if there are three or more. It often happens that a former spouse acquires a low-paying job intentionally, to pay as little as possible for child support, while at the same time hiding an additional income. For this reason, the rule is intensified for a parent living apart from his family. In this case, the child support payment is a minimum of 20 rubles a month for each child, such that the percentage of income specified above is adhered to. This means, for example, that if a parent paying support for three children holds a low-paying job intentionally, earning say 80 rubles a month, the amount withheld from his pay is 60 rubles (even though this amount exceeds half his income).

It should be noted that the amount of child support payment can be reduced by court order in the event the responsible parent has other under age children who, if additional payment were exacted, would as a consequence receive less assistance than the children already receiving assistance. This rule also applies if the debtor is an invalid of the first or second groups, or if the children hold a job paying a sufficient wage.

It is known that as of 1 January 1985 there is an entitlement for temporary assistance to under age children in the case where a search is being made for a parent who refuses to pay for child support.

A claim for assistance is submitted by the claimant to the rayon (municipal) social security office for the area in which the claimant resides. Attached to the claim are a statement by the internal affairs organization that the address of the debtor could not be determined for the month in question and another statement from the claimant's residence certifying that the claimant and child (or children) occupy the same household at the time the application is being submitted.

Temporary assistance is granted independently of all other subsidies, and it is not subject to taxation. This assistance is discontinued upon establishment of the debtor's address or his death; attainment of 18 years of age by the child; placement of the child into a children's institution at full state expense; loss of parent by the child; and in other situations specified by the law.

The decree adopted by the USSR Council of Ministers and the VTsSPS increases the amount of temporary assistance; the amount paid for each child is now 20 rubles a month.

Ispolkoms of rayon (municipal) soviets of people's deputies are empowered, in the case of needy families in which there are three or more children under the care of a single parent, to set the amount of additional child support payment, to be paid out of funds from the local budget, if this totals less than 20 rubles a month per child. In this connection, the total amount of additional payment, when added to assistance already being received, is not to exceed 20 rubles per child a month.

[Question] What families qualify for low-income assistance? How is the additional child support payment calculated?

[Answer] Let us note that, under the existing rules, a family is considered to qualify if the average total income per family member does not exceed 50 rubles a month; this amount is 75 rubles a month in areas of the Far East and Siberia, in the northern regions of the country (Karelian ASSR, Komi ASSR, Arkhangelsk and Murmansk oblasts, and the Vologda, Novgorod, and Pskov oblasts). These families receive 12 rubles per child a month until the children attain the age of 8 years.

Determination of the average total income per family member and filling out of documents required for designating the additional child support payments are specified in the procedure established for the designation and payment of assistance to children of low-income families.

The claimant must present to the rayon (municipal) social security office the following documents: the claim; statement from his place of residence indicating the family makeup; statement showing income received the previous year by each family member (salary or wage, allotments, pension, child support payments, subsidiary farm operation if applicable).

In the event the claimant is already receiving child support assistance, it is sufficient to attach to the claim form a statement from the enterprise (institution, organization) paying out the assistance showing the average total income per family member per month and the child support payments received in the preceding year, in addition to a statement giving the family makeup. When the child assistance payments are being made by the social security office, the average total income and average monthly amount of child support per child for the preceding year are determined on the basis of the information shown on the petition (registration form) for child support.

Additional payments for child support are set by ispolkoms of rayon (municipal) councils of people's deputies on the basis of proof provided by social security offices of low-income status of a family in which there are three or more minor children being raised by a single parent and also of guardians of three or more children in cases where the amount of such payment comprises less than 20 rubles a month per child and is being paid by social security offices out of local funds.

The additional payments are to start in the month in which the claim is officiated, which is considered to be the month in which the claim is submitted with all related documents. In cases where a claim lacks a document or documents at the time of submission, the claimant is notified of the lack. If the missing documentation is presented no later than 3 months after the notification is received, the month of claim is considered to be the month the claim was first made.

As stated above, the additional child support payments must not exceed 20 rubles a month for each child. The payments are set to be received every month for the remainder of the year on the basis of calculation of the average

amount of child support received by the claimant in the preceding calendar year.

Take the example of an average total income per family member for the preceding calendar of 48 rubles 50 kopecks a month. The total amount of child support is 460 rubles. Assume that there are three under age children in the family. The average monthly amount of support per child is 12 rubles 77 kopecks ($460:12:3$). The total amount of child support to be received by the family for the current year is 21 rubles 69 kopecks a month ($20-12.77$) X 3.

The additional child support is paid to the parent (guardian) on a monthly basis; if the claimant so desires, he can be paid quarterly, until the end of the current calendar year. In the event the child's parent or guardian dies, or if the child becomes employed, attains the age of 18, becomes a ward of the state, or if he dies, the child support payment is terminated in the month following the month in which any one of the above events occurs. In this case, support payment for the remaining children is to continue in the established amount to the end of the current calendar year.

Checks made locally indicate that this decree is not being applied fully in all cases. It has come to light that trade union organizations are not always aware of its existence.

In this connection, trade union councils and committees must make every effort to insure that low-income families receive in a timely manner the full benefits due them under this decree.

13005

CSO: 1828/143

IZVESTIYA VIEWS PROBLEM OF WORKERS' MOTIVATION

PM191431 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Professor Zh. Toshchenko, vice president of the Soviet Sociological Association and chairholder at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences, by Ye. Manucharova under the rubric "Restructuring and the Economic Mechanism": "The Barometer of Economic Consciousness"--place and date not given]

[Text] [Manucharova] Zhan Terentyevich! Why has the restructuring of economic consciousness been chosen as the theme of an all-union research project? Is there any real evidence that positive changes have taken place in people's consciousness?

[Toshchenko] Restructuring begins with consciousness. And especially that part of it which reflects people's production life, labor organization and payment, and relations within the collective. Our research was therefore designed to answer the following question: What is the state of social consciousness in the new conditions, what trends predominate in its development, what problems have yet to be resolved, and what has to be taken into account in order to place the creative energy of economic consciousness fully at the service of the revolutionary transformations within society? Or, in more rigorous terms, the theme of our sociological expedition was: economic consciousness and the enhancement of its role in accelerating the country's development.

The research was carried out by scientists from our academy in cooperation with scientific and party workers at local level. Its scope was fairly extensive. We conducted our work in 11 regions, questioned more than 4,000 workers in the main national economic sectors, and carried out assessments of the state of affairs in more than 300 labor collectives.

The conclusions are clear-cut. Most people want to join in the implementation of the proposed transformations. Some 90 percent of those polled are convinced of the real possibility of enhancing the quality of work and output. Almost the same number of people believe that they themselves could work better and produce bigger returns.

[Manucharova] What incentives for enhancing labor efficiency are now particularly important and are valued most by the people?

[Toshchenko] Analysis shows that the motive for people's commitment to restructuring is not only and not so much a desire to improve their own life as an awareness of the significance of restructuring for the fate of the motherland. No one doubts that this policy is absolutely essential for the country. The country, specifically, rather than individual people.

However, this unanimity does not mean that everything is proceeding as the country or even the people themselves might wish. The problem is much more complex. A rather contradictory situation prevails at present. On the one hand, the working people recognize the priority of social interests. But, on the other hand, they are filled with caution, with a kind of internal, hidden prejudice against change. They are asking themselves whether ultimately these will not just boil down to pious wishes. And as a consequence people are still not making a special effort and are still in no hurry to get down to work in earnest. They are thinking on approximately the following lines: "When it becomes necessary, I will be ready and will comply with increased demands. But not right now, not right away."

And what is more, one in three of those polled told us that it would hardly affect his wages even if he turned out even poorer work than now.

In other words, the forecast which claimed that it would be quite easy to combine the interests of the country and the interests of the individual into a single whole failed to consider a good many factors. Especially our recent past.

Views about the correlation between work and payment have also been turned inside out. A dangerous conviction has taken root in people's minds that their level of prosperity depends to a very small degree or not at all on the standard of their work.

And we have not done much to change this situation. For instance, at present wages are being increased for whole categories of workers. It is understandable that this has to be done primarily because of low pay fixed at some point in the past in the various spheres of our social organism. However, it must not be overlooked either that, in making decisions affecting whole categories of workers, the professionalism, creativity, conscientiousness, and ultimately the contribution to the common cause of individual workers is not taken into account. In other words, this promotes the continued flourishing of wage leveling. The prestige of specific professions and the quality of labor could be greatly enhanced if all the additional money could be spent on increasing the wages of those who actually work.

As for the bonus system, it is so complex that, if people lose a bonus because they fail to meet a certain parameter, they can virtually always compensate for it under a different parameter. Even piece-work is reduced to some kind of obligatory level. If less is offered, people are simply not interested. The existing system of fines for failure to meet plan targets also affects hardly anyone.

It is true that there are examples where it has proved possible to eradicate parasitic attitudes. At the Petrozavodsk machine tool plant a new system of fines has been introduced. A worker who produces rejects has to replace out of his own pocket the full cost of the substandard component or unit which he has produced. This was regarded as unacceptable up to now. In my view such an approach is fully justified. Unless we make rewards dependent on the quality and quantity of every workers' individual labor, we will not be able to overcome the contradictory situation whereby people express complete readiness for restructuring but do very little to implement it in practice.

Parallel interviews with leaders and subordinates have revealed that the achievements of the enterprises where they all work are assessed differently at different levels of the hierarchy.

Most leaders are relatively optimistic in assessing their own efforts and the level of success achieved by their enterprise during the first year of restructuring. Workers tend not to agree with them. In many cases they are prone to believe that the bosses' words are at variance with their deeds. This situation undoubtedly contains the seeds of future conflicts.

[Manucharova] Is this because interests diverge? Because the level where personal and social interests coincide is different?

[Toshchenko] Naturally. But that does not solve anything. Everyone has a right to have his interests met. When introducing innovations it is necessary to proceed from the fact that people's "personal" concerns are no less important than "social" concerns.

People have an interest in providing for themselves and their families by means of their labor. It is fine if a worker is contentedly doing necessary work, gets paid for it, and is satisfied with his job. But it is quite a different matter if he does not have this opportunity. If he does not like or does not respect his job, his profession, if he takes a couldn't-care-less attitude to the work entrusted to him.

We studied the level of job-satisfaction of people working in social production, for instance, and we came up against the fact that there are enterprises where job-satisfaction is in no way connected with labor successes. Workers said that they were entirely satisfied, but their wages and end results were low. However, they did not lie to us. They were quite happy to "mark time": they just wanted to tick over, saving their energy for other things--some for amusements, some "for the home, for the family," while others were plain lazy. It went even further: some people organized their rest at work, so as to be able to work "for real" in the evening, doing well-paid jobs "on the side," jobs for which they took responsibility and which interested them.

No matter what changes we introduce, we must be able to foresee what trends they will reinforce. And that is possible only if you know not just in what direction people's interests lie, but also what color they have taken on today.

[Manucharova] Is it once again a matter of wanting to improve the situation "here and now"?

[Toshchenko] On the contrary. Many people take pleasure in exposing shortcomings, especially if it does not affect their own situation in any way. Displaying highly uncompromising attitudes, people condemn drunkenness, money grubbing, or bureaucracy. But when it comes to condemning a specific person guilty of any of these evils at their own enterprise, that drunkard, for instance, to whom they have gotten accustomed, or that bureaucrat with whom they rub shoulders every day, their intolerance immediately fades away. Suddenly they say: "But he has a family," "he will improve"...

[Manucharova] What lies at the root of this phenomenon?

[Toshchenko] In my view it is the discrepancy between what people already know, what view they take of this knowledge (are they convinced of the correctness of this knowledge), and what they do to translate their convictions into actions. It will probably take a long time for the knowledge and convictions to become practical actions. We have already achieved quite a substantial result. People believe (or rather have begun to believe) the information which is made available. However, the main issue has still not been resolved. So far there is little action.

[Manucharova] You hold a chair at the academy where party and economic managers are trained. What would you like to teach your students?

[Toshchenko] To think and act independently. Nowadays every leader can have maximum freedom of action, if only he wants it, including the freedom to take a risk (a calculated risk of course). Enterprises (and hence manager) have the right to do anything apart from what is expressly forbidden or is contrary to the law.

However, exercising one's rights to independence demands knowledge. Professional, economic, and sociological knowledge. The managers of many enterprises clearly lack breadth of education.

The most typical situation revealed in the course of our study was the following: Many managers admitted that they had no idea why and how to enhance the role of self-management at the enterprise. And their subordinates did not understand under what conditions work would proceed better.

[Manucharova] Does this mean that the economic education system is working badly? Your study was to investigate this question too. What do people think?

[Toshchenko] The overwhelming majority of people (90 percent of those polled) made serious complaints against economic education. And there is no denying it. We see teams adopting a pledge "to reduce the cost price of output by 2 percent" without having the least idea what this means in practice and how it is to be achieved. Even the term "cost price" has no specific meaning for them.

[Manucharova] It seems to me that any knowledge is absorbed much better if there is a real need for it. What I am saying is that, unless there is a real need to reduce the cost of output or enhance discipline, no one gives it serious thought--not even the managers.

[Toshchenko] Most probably managers have not been taught to account to themselves. Meanwhile they are called on to constantly observe people's reactions to the adopted measures and form a clear opinion as to what changes are taking place.

What, for instance, is one to make of the fact that only 16 percent of leaders see public opinion as a basis for decisionmaking? Is this not a continuation of the complacency which was current earlier, when words about taking people's opinions into account concealed the firm conviction that only a limited circle of people in charge of management knew what was right? So I think it no accident that only 7 percent of workers expressed confidence that proposals for improving production submitted by them would be put into practice.

[Manucharova] What are the main elements in the range of measures intended to enhance people's interest in their work?

[Toshchenko] In short: their personal prospects. As soon as people are deprived of prospects, their interest diminishes sharply.

So it is wrong to set a "ceiling" on wages. Individual labor in our country cannot change a worker into a capitalist. That requires the manipulation of capital and a different social system. Incidentally, when the Stakhanovite movement was born there was no "ceiling." Stakhanov's wages increased by the same percentage as he increased labor productivity.

Socialist competition must be organized in such a way as to provide workers with real prospects for improving their lives. This is how it is organized in Estonia. A new system for summing up the results of competition has been introduced at many enterprises there which realistically assesses the contribution of each worker, so that everyone knows what he has to achieve a set aim in several stages. By combining material and moral incentives Estonian enterprise managers have opened up the prospect of growth for every worker.

In connection with the issue of personal prospects, I would like to touch on yet another question. An analysis of the work of economic managers and party and other social organizations shows that their attention usually focuses on two categories of workers--pace-setters and slackers. The greater part of the efforts and much time is devoted to them. To the former for the purpose of disseminating their experience and to the latter in order to reduce their disorganizing influence. But I would like to draw your attention to the following fact: The total in both these categories does not usually exceed 20 percent. So who are the remaining 80 percent? They are the people without whom the pace-setters alone could not fulfill the plan. They ultimately secure both the plan and social life. Everything about them is average. There are no great achievements, but nor are there any violations. So why do we remember these--in the

best sense of the word--average people only at the end of the year on on special days in the calendar? Has not the time come to focus our efforts more on these people, who ensure the regular fulfillment of the production plan? Should not they be provided with personal prospects too?

[Manucharova] What about leaders? There is a ceiling for them, isn't there?

[Toshchenko] Yes, moving "vertically" there is a ceiling, but they have unlimited opportunities for "horizontal" movement. It is always interesting to tackle a new job. And a change of cadres is always beneficial to the cause itself. Permit me a literary allusion. Ibsen's Peer Gynt made it the rule of his life to "be himself." But, because he found this difficult, he added a little phrase to make his motto "to be content to be himself." And immediately he become uninteresting. This is the easy way out. But it is this way that we must bar, it is here that we have to put up the "No Exit" sign.

And I repeat: replaceability of cadres is essential. A new brain, new ideas, the inevitable replacement (established as a hard rule) of one man by another. This will enable us to avoid the main danger--self-satisfaction and complacency.

[Manucharova] What was the conclusion reached by the all-union research study?

[Toshchenko] The readiness of most people to step up their work is extremely high, and this provides a historic chance to change the situation in the country by taking advantage of this general upsurge, this ideological reserve. However, bringing this reserve into play needs effective measures. It is no longer possible to merely engage in propaganda, to exhort people in general to display enthusiasm. We have covered that stage. People are no longer satisfied with general propositions and dreams about life that will be good somewhere at some time in the future. They are much more interested in their own life and their own surroundings, they want changes for the better right here and now--that is what most people want. Here and now. And if they cannot see any real changes where they work and live, they complain to the Central Committee and write letters to newspapers. They do not want to put up with shortcomings in their lives allegedly caused by higher interests and social necessity. And the main characteristic of economic consciousness at the present stage lies precisely in this specific contradictory situation and in the still volatile readiness for action.

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CSO: 1828/148

LENINGRAD METRO WORK PROGRESSES

Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 87 p 1

[Article by A. Shafer: "In the Future--Startup"]

[Text] Today the Leningrad subway is being constructed in three directions of the Pravoberezhnaya Line at once. Its eastern section, from the Krasnyye Komissary Station will go into operation this year.

The construction site of the above-ground vestibule and the mine complex of the startup section was located at the intersection of Prospekt Bolshevikov and Ulitsa Bybenko. This is the main workplace of the brigade of SMU-11 of V. Sorokin and the transportation team from SMU-13. Concrete, reinforcement materials and other materials are being delivered to the site 24 hours a day, and the dump trucks are bringing rock and gravel here. In the open pit which is several meters deep there is a large reinforced concrete slab--the foundation for the machines for the escalators. The brick walls of the vestibule are rising up nearby.

In the station itself, behind a thick wall that separates it from the inclined entry passage, tunnel builders from the comprehensive brigade of SMU-13 of V. Khusu are working: they are building the upper arch of the passenger waiting room.

At the Krasnyye Komissary Station, like at the Ploshchad Aleksandra Nevskogo, they have used a new technology for installing the blocks of the arch. They are pressed against the rock with a "pneumatic" keystone block. Only it is not filled with air but with a liquid that hardens rapidly under great pressure.

The jackhammers pound and pieces of solid greyish-green clay roll over the site under the assembly girder, where they are picked up by the scoop of the loading machine. This machine with pneumatic drive appeared for the first time in the construction of the Leningrad subway--it needs no rails and it can transport 1.5 cubic meters of rock in its box. Every day the cutting of the upper arch advances by a meter.

And two carts rattle along the tracks in the tunnels. The SMU-13 brigade of A. Petrov is assembling steel columns from them. The columns covered with

frost thaw out in place. Like powerful Atlases holding hands, they are lined up on the foundation of 10 steel giants ready to take on their crossbar shoulders the monstrous weight of the mass of rock above the station.

At the end of the future passenger waiting room are two large chambers. One of them will contain the combined traction substation (STP). The building for it is being constructed by the brigade of SMU-13 headed by the well-known tunneler K. Kasradze. The assembly workers of SMU-9 are impatiently waiting for the completion of the construction work on the STP. The brigade of N. Stepanov has taken this project under contract: in April it will be fully in charge here and bring in the first cable.

The time has now come to the startup section when one can see with one's own eyes how complicated this structure, the subway, is. To do this all one need do is walk along the track. The startup section is only one station. It is only one stage less than 2 kilometers long. But in order to ensure safe and prompt movement of the trains and create the necessary conditions for tens of thousands of passengers it is necessary to put in place not only on the surface, but also underground, an immense work with equipment and fittings. To do this, many chambers are being created along the track tunnels. The majority of them are being constructed by tunnelers of SMU-15, and they are also constructing the ventilation unit.

11772

CSO: 1829/187

CONSTRUCTION OF 'YASENOVO' METRO STATION BEGINS

Moscow VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA in Russian 2 Apr 87 p 1

[Article by N. Marinich: "The 'Yasenovo' Station Will Be Constructed More Rapidly"]

[Text] Let us look into the not-so-distant future--1989, when the subway train will run from "Belyayeva" not only to the "Konkovo" and "Teplyystan" stations which will open up this year, but also farther to the southwest.

Now the bulldozers are taking the surface layer of earth from the route under construction, and then the pile driver will begin to drive in the piles and the excavators will remove the earth from the future pit.

It is becoming a good tradition that the location of the future subway station can be guessed from the complex of services for its builders. And here, on Tarusskaya Ulitsa, first there grew up a 3-story building similar to the one that appeared at the beginning of the construction site near the "Konkova" Station.

"There we had an entire complex of services for the workers," says the shift engineer, V. Kalganov. "Now, after consulting with the brigades," we decided to devote almost the entire first story to a dining room and to construct more showers and clothes dryers. And for a sauna or sports one can go also to the house of services at "Konkovo." After all, it is only a couple of bus stops away. Today they completed the assembly of the house of services for builders at the "Yasenovo" station and we are beginning the inside work.

The section chief, A. Medvedev, is anxiously awaiting the blueprints for the construction of the station. But they have now decided to revise the prepared plan.

"When they examine the blueprints it turned out that they had not received permission to move the communications lines that go through the place where the subway station is to be constructed," says the head engineer of SMU-11, S. Ukhonov. "And therefore we had to use the pit under the station for these, digging down almost 15 meters more. Of course, it is uncomfortable to work when there are pipes hanging over your head. But the main thing is that after we deepened it we came across kinds of clay that was unfamiliar to the subway

builders." The plan envisioned large support structures that require additional expenditures of money and labor. At one time the planners tried to demonstrate the expediency of moving the communications lines, but then, several years ago, they did not manage to solve the problem with its multitude of connections and coordinations.

The engineers building the subway were able to prove with figures in their hands the advantage of the good idea and were able to convince people that they should not create difficulties and then have to overcome them. The new plan envisions redoing the communications lines and putting the station on a firm foundation and at a lesser depth. But a delay of the blueprints of a couple of months ended up, paradoxical as it may be, as a significant time advantage for the construction of the station. Moreover, without waiting for the blueprints, they began to work here. The construction on the subway began to proceed farther, beyond "Yasenovo." The tunnelers of the section, headed by V. Gorbunov, made their way through the first 20 meters of linear tunnel from the last subway station of the future route from "Bittsevskiy park" to "Yasenovo."

11772

CSO: 1829/187

AYaM FUNDING PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 May 87 p 1

[Article by O. Borodin: "There Are Funds for the Amur-Yakutsk Main Line, But No Plan"]

[Text] Yakutsk--In the article entitled "Why Has Financing of the AYaM Been Cut?" (No 24, 1987) there was discussion of the fact that the USSR Stroybank has cut financing for the construction of the Amur-Yakutsk Main Line because the client--the Ministry of Railways--cut off previously allotted capital investments for this construction project. The article ended with the words of the deputy chairman of the Stroybank board, V. Kulikov: "Now the Ministry of Railways is returning the millions that had been cut to those for whom it was intended."

The editorial staff received a response to this article signed by the deputy minister of railways, V. Kalinichev: "The Ministry of Railways considered questions of allotting funds for the construction of the Amur-Yakutsk Main Line in 1987. For purposes of providing for full loading of construction organizations participating in the construction of the Berkakit-Tommot Line, the Ministry of Railways, with the agreement of the Ministry of Transport Construction submitted to the USSR Council of Ministers a proposal to increase the volumes of construction and installation work on this line to 70 million rubles while correspondingly reducing capital investments in the section where the BAM route crosses the North Muysk Ridge."

At the end of February it was decided as an exception to accept the proposal of the Ministry of Railways coordinated with USSR Gosplan and the USSR Ministry of Transport Construction, to allot 37 million rubles' worth of capital investments in 1987 for the construction of the Berkakit-Tommot Railroad Line.

As we can see, although in very truncated form, the Ministry of Railways was given permission to increase capital investments in the northern construction project. But another obstacle appeared here: long ago the Ministry of Railways was to have considered and approved a plan for the Berkakit-Tomot Railroad Line that was produced by the Mosgioprotrans Institute. But up to this point the plan has not been approved and without it the construction cannot be carried out. Here is a telegram received by the Amur office of the

Stroybank: "The USSR Council of Ministers did not agree to continue the beneficial financing of the Berkakit-Tomot Railroad Line. It suggested that the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Transport Construction accelerate the approval of the plan. Soyuzstroybank, Dubenetskiy." Thus, as before, more than 5,000 builders of the main line and their families do not know what will become of them. For the collective of builders of the AYAM this year changed over to working by the collective contract method, and the mix-up with the financing makes it impossible for them to take full advantage of this method.

The destiny of the construction project bothers more than just the builders and party and government agencies of Yakutia. Understanding its significance for the northeastern region of the country, the USSR Gosplan in conjunction with the USSR Gosstroy and the USSR Stroybank, in keeping with instructions from the USSR Council of Ministers, considered the request of the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Transport Construction to carry out preparatory work for a bridge across the Aldan, Amga and Lena rivers for the Tomot-Yakutsk Railroad Line even before the plan is approved. "Because of the high degree of readiness of the plan for the bridge across the Aldan and the need to open up traffic to it in 1991-1992, the USSR Gosplan thinks it expedient, beginning in 1988, to carry out preparatory and basic work on this bridge in keeping with the plan of the construction organization.... Taking into account that the construction of the bridge across the Lena River will take a couple of years, the USSR Gosplan agrees to do preparatory work for this bridge by constructing a production base and facilities for nonproduction purposes." This document was signed by the deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan, A. Reut.

The RSFSR Ministry of Highway Construction is ready to contribute its share to the objects on the route, concerning which there is also an official letter signed by the deputy minister, A. Lagutin.

With a certain amount of efficiency, it was possible to begin to solve crucial problems even yesterday. But one gets the impression that the Ministry of Railways is deliberately not hurrying. And yet the delay in the construction of the road to the north ends up in significant losses for the state. The annual above-plan outlays when shipping cargo reached 500 million rubles. Under these conditions, if the road is constructed, its construction will be recouped in record time--3 years.

"Today we must first of all think about the people on the route," the first secretary of the Yakutsk CPSU Obkom, Yu. Prokoyev, comments on the situation that is developed. "But our repeated appeals to the Ministry of Railways have not yet produced any result. The ministry is delaying the consideration of the plan. Yet, by applying progressive solutions and materials, the planners have reduced the labor-intensiveness of the work on the route by 26 percent and considerably reduced the expenditure of metal, cement and timber materials. Understanding the difficulties with the allotment of funds for the construction project, we are suggesting breaking the construction down into stages. But it is quite obvious that it is necessary to clearly indicate the workfront for the construction workers today and give them a clear picture of the prospects for the next few years."

PROBLEMS WITH BAM CITED

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 May 87 p 1

[Article by S. Levchenko, leader of the Consolidated Comprehensive Brigade of the Tsentrobamstroy Trust: "Remember BAM!"]

[Text] Tynda--I recently spoke on the telephone with a relative who lives in Central Asia which was also my home in the days before BAM. "Are you coming home soon?" they asked. "The BAM has been constructed, they no longer speak about you on the radio, the newspapers write nothing about you, but still something is holding you there...."

Yes, apparently there is deeply rooted in people's consciousness the idea that with the completion of the first stage of the construction site, the laying of the "Golden Section," and the passage of the first trains along the entire route the BAM would be complete. I think about this with the alarm and pain of a person who has given the line 12 of the best years of his life.

We worked indefatigably here, and, of course, we did much. We cleared a road, exploded rock faces, rolled rocks in order to lay the route from Baykal to Amur in time. We constructed cities and villages, and we ourselves lived in tents, barracks, and railroad cars, patiently waiting until our turn came.

Many of us who first worked on the BAM linked it not to a period of our life but our whole life because we knew and believed: there would be much work in the future, enough for our time and the time of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren....

I walked through the BAM capital, Tynda, which had become my home. I love the main prospekt--Krasnaya Presnya, where there are tall buildings and modern architecture. Many buildings were constructed by our consolidated comprehensive brigade. I take joy in how beautiful the prospekt is!

But I turn to the side, toward my street and--it is as though nothing had ever happened. The railroad cars, the beams, the barracks which, it seems, are endless. This is also Tynda. And these "glorious" times, set, as we were told then, "for a short period," we live from the day the BAM came. My daughter Olya went into the first grade here, and now she is a student at the Moscow Institute of Railroad Transportation engineers. Incidentally, she also

decided to link her life to the BAM. I am only afraid, frankly, that we will see her after completing the institute in the same barracks. From my brigade of 30 people only one received a modern apartment last year.

But here is the citywide statistic: about three-fourths of the builders live in panel buildings and another one-fifth live in railroad cars. The waiting list for housing is immense--more than 10,000 people. We are not doing much building. Last year they put the pressure on and released 935 apartments instead of the planned 630. But this remarkable jump was made from a well-timed reserve: now the rates of housing construction in Tynda, to our great disappointment, have declined.

There is much talk about the fact that, finally, we must turn in the direction of the people and eliminate the arrears in the development of the social sphere. But what is happening in fact? As before, we are regularly experiencing a neglectful attitude toward the needs of the BAM workers. As before, our problems of continuous water supply and provision of heat for the homes are critical. Three kindergartens that were put into operation recently have not solved a problem that is important for young people of the city: hundreds of children are still waiting in line. Young mothers must stay at home with them, thus exacerbating the shortage of personnel.

Now the BAM and we BAM workers are probably experiencing our most difficult times. The construction project was being "maintained" by high public prestige. The cream of the crop was here. Everyone felt honored to be involved in one way or another or simply to demonstrate his appreciation for a great cause. We never had time to receive guests: at the landmark points famous performers, sportsmen, composers, artists, writers, journalists, documentary moviemakers...all gathered around us. They all supported us and were drawn to us.

In the autumn of 1984 orchestras rang out at the celebration of the "Golden Spike" in Kuanda and the festivities ended in Tynda, where they received the first BAM train and a new period began--alas, a period of stagnation and oblivion for BAM. These are bitter words, but believe me, they are true.

In the mornings we no longer go to work in the company of cheerful songs from the daily broadcast "For BAM Builders," it no longer exists. One rarely sees our construction site as the subject in the information program "Bremya." They have abolished the tours of national artists of the USSR, Yu. Bogatnikov, A. Solovyanenko, T. Sinyavskaya, and other masters of the arts....

There is little available in the stores, and they are mostly empty. What happened to the customary BAM "shortage." They have stopped the centralized supply for the construction project and our trade is provided through bases of the krais and oblasts through whose territory the route runs. All right, one can do without leather jackets and imported coats. But why are the stores sometimes out of the most necessary things? Why has the supply of construction materials and equipment deteriorated sharply? We stand idle for weeks at a time because of the shortage, first of brick, then of fittings, then of reinforced concrete items.... Has somebody really abolished the movement under the slogan, "A green light to cargoes for the BAM"?

Judging from everything, the erroneous idea that the BAM has been completed has penetrated into the highest supervisory offices of the departments that are providing materials for the construction project. Is it really so difficult to understand that the rails that have been laid are only the beginning of the organization of life over immense expanses. The route is only the starting point for the assimilation of the inestimable wealth of the region. And even in the BAM itself, there is unexplored territory. These projects are not as obvious as the laying of track, but they are no less important and labor-intensive.

By the end of the current five-year plan we must turn the road over for permanent operation. Even now the labor collectives are concerned: What will happen to them after that? Without knowing the future, not feeling confident of tomorrow and not receiving any attention, many are abandoning the construction project. Each year one-third of the collective of builders is replaced. The BAM is losing its experienced fighters and highly skilled specialists.

We have not forgotten about how extensively and in what detail our problems were discussed by the traveling reporters of IZVESTIYA who were assigned to the BAM before the "Golden Spike." At that time the newspaper was able to predict much of what is happening now with the construction project. They could predict it, but they could not prevent it.

Today the BAM needs the attention and concern of real friends as never before in order to figure out its problems and help to solve them. Thus perhaps IZVESTIYA will send its special correspondents to us again. Let them follow the route, remember their previous articles, and tell about our concerns of today.

From the Editorial Staff: The letter from the brigade leader from Tynda raises serious problems related to the continuation of the construction of the Baykal-Amur Main Line. He is not the first to express sincere concern for the destiny of the immense construction project. The decreased attention being paid to it by central departments has also been discussed from the podium of the 27th Party Congress and quite recently these questions were raised pointedly at the 20th Congress of the Komsomol.

It would seem that the reproach from the BAM workers directed at the press, including our newspaper, is quite justified. Indeed, the mass media after the triumph of 1984 somehow lost interest in the BAM. Taking this into account, IZVESTIYA is again sending a group of special correspondents to the train route. They will return to their articles from 2 years ago and discuss the daily life and concerns of the BAM workers today and the problems in assimilating the BAM area.

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